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AND SUPREME COURT AND CONSULAR GAZETTE

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NEWSPAPERS OF THE EMPIRE

Nov. 13.

UNDER the title of "The Parliament of the Press," Sir Robert Donald has issued a valuable little pamphlet giving the history of the Empire Press Union, of which he is chairman, from the first Imperial Press Conference in 1909 (which gave the Union birth) down to its second meeting at Ottawa last September. Prior to 1909 newspapers of the Dominions worked each according to the best of its ability and resources. Their outlook was necessarily circumscribed by the enormous expense of the cable services and their knowledge of what was going on in other parts of the Empire limited to gleanings from Home newspapers and weekly letters from a few distant correspondents, all long after the event. Readers of the "North-China Daily News" will remember that our supply of telegrams—although we maintained at great expense a special service; often, it must be confessed, rather indifferent—did not aggregate in a week as much as we should now consider a moderate amount for one day. All this is the fruit of the Empire Press Union, which is still not satisfied and looks forward to even cheaper and fuller wireless services and relays of swift aeroplane mails. It is also curious to learn from Sir Robert Donald that, prior to 1909, the Colonial Office, which was a very oyster for secrecy, scarcely seemed to know of the existence of the great Dominions' journals, whose London correspondents were without any of the facilities possessed by other journalists of standing.

All this has been mended, with results to which the late war

bears testimony. Sir Robert Donald says that the Conference of 1909 was less important in respect of concrete advantages gained than for the new sense of solidarity, partnership and joint responsibility for the welfare of the Empire which the editors took home with them. Reading the speeches then delivered, one marvels that statesmen can have so clearly perceived what was to happen, yet, by their subsequent acts, have remained apparently so indifferent. "We foresee possibilities," said Mr. Reginald McKenna, then First Lord of the Admiralty, "in which we shall be called upon to unite our whole strength in a common defence." Lord Rosebery, Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Balfour, Mr. Lyttelton, Mr. Winston Churchill and, needless to add, Lord Roberts all spoke in similar appreciation of a great world struggle impending. It would be necessary to go over the files of a hundred newspapers to ascertain how far the assembled editors were impressed with these warnings. Generally speaking, it has appeared as if those at a distance often saw the essential things concerning the Empire more clearly than those at the centre where, through the fault of our parliamentary system, domestic matters crowd out imperial. At any rate, the unanimity with which in 1914 the whole Empire recognized the war as its own equal burden cannot be wholly unconnected with that Conference in 1909 and the things to which its members' eyes were opened.

Looking to the future, the first point that calls for attention is that the Government, once entirely oblivious to the influence of newspapers, has now woken up to it with rather alarming alertness. Some of the manifestations of this change are merely clumsy. Propaganda, the evil fruit of Germany's example, is run to death. This sort of work is of no great moment, because the bulk of the articles sent out in some fond hope of furthering British interests are such poor stuff that no

editor in his senses would print them. Far more insidious is the danger that the Government may attempt to control news sent over the cables, either by censorship or by subsidies. Of this tendency we have believed more than once in recent years that we saw signs; and if we were mistaken, at any rate Sir Robert Donald, in his pamphlet, plainly scents the danger as one that must be fought tooth and nail. On any grounds, anything like a monopoly in news distribution is undesirable. What one hopes for is cable rates cheap enough to enable Dominion newspapers to maintain their own correspondents.

And at the same time newspapers have to look to their own prestige. If their influence was never greater than it became during the war, we have unhappily to confess that their reputation generally was seldom so low. The use of staring sensational headlines and the practice of concentrating all energies on one daily thrill, "a story every day" as the phrase goes, have done great harm. These methods were designed to increase circulation, to attract advertisers and swell resources. And they have succeeded. But they have also undermined journalism's repute for sanity and balance. Another undoubtedly adverse influence has been the advent of the personal factor, not only in the greater prominence of signed articles of opinion, but in the common knowledge that such and such a newspaper is the property of this or that individual, whose views and wishes it exists to further. The great position held by some of the English and Scottish provincial newspapers nowadays is not a little due to the anonymity veiling their ownership and authorship, while their methods are soberer than those of most London papers. The age in which we are living is altogether slightly hysterical, and there is an unmistakable feeling among non-journalists that the newspapers could do something to correct it.

MASS PRODUCTION

Nov. 15.

ONE of the many lessons thoroughly learnt during the war was that the adoption of the principle of mass production by a manufacturer produces a reduction in the cost of making each article. The best example was furnished by the shell factories. Despite rising wages, the cost of producing any type of shell at the end of the war was only a fraction of the cost of making exactly the same shell at the beginning of the war. Everyone saw the figures published at the time when the Ministry of Munitions was sending out of British workshops the maximum output. What very few people appreciated was that there had been a complete revolution in the methods of working. One great change was the extended use of unskilled labour. The other was the introduction of machinery especially designed to save labour or to render the employment of skilled labour unnecessary.

The main idea which underlies the system of mass production was appreciated in the United States earlier than in Great Britain. One reason was the higher wages which skilled labour received; another had to do with equipment. The Americans built their machinery with the idea that after a certain period it would probably be out-of-date and in any case would go to the "scrap-heap." The British manufacturer always prided himself on turning out a thoroughly reliable piece of work, and engines are in use in Great Britain to-day which have pumped water continuously, or furnished power for other purposes, many hours each day during the last eighty years. The public knew very little of the actual processes of workshop practice during the nineteenth century. Two new inventions have made the man who has had no technical training acquainted with the jargon of the workshops. They are the motor-car and the aeroplane. Everyone nowadays is more or less interested in the price of motor-cars and the improvements which appear from time to time. For that reason, if for none other, everyone is interested in the subject of mass production. An enterprising American named Mr. Henry Ford first made himself world-famous by applying the principles of mass-production to the motor-car.

It is perhaps not too much to say that every other motor-car manufacturer has been compelled, by the force of the laws of competition, to adopt these principles. In the early days each car in a factory was built up by itself and had, more or less, its own individuality. Let us take the frame of the car, which is just the four pieces of steel upon which the body is placed and which carries the wheel axles and the transmission gear. That frame must have a number of holes, let us say a dozen or fifteen, made in it. Those were made separately and the work took quite an appreciable time. A number of different machines, tools and men were employed on this process of making holes in a frame. As a variety of types of car was being made in the factory—some with alterations to suit the fancy of a purchaser—there were different frames and the same man might, in the course of a month, be at work on all of them. That system is finished. In some works only one type of car is produced. There is an English firm that makes one hundred cars a week of one type; they are as alike in every detail as are matches or the bars of any particular brand of soap. And this is how the frames are drilled. A special machine, with twelve or fifteen drills as required, has been designed and made. The frame is placed in a certain position. A lever is pulled and all the holes are punched simultaneously and automatically. There is no possibility of the spaces between the holes of any two frames being different. The machine is made to that work and through all the working day an endless procession of frames appears and is placed in a position which cannot be wrong. Unskilled labour does everything except what is required to keep the tools employed in the machine in good working order; and so it is with other parts of the car. By using the system of mass production it is possible to take those one hundred new cars which are finished each week to pieces, mix up all the parts, and then to re-assemble them from a haphazard selection of the necessary parts.

The great advantage, from the consumer's point of view, of this system is that mass production produces a better article at a lower price. That must, finally, bring down the price of cars. The output of British and American motor-car factories in two or three

years will attain enormous proportions. Wages may go up, but the improvements made by the system enable higher wages to be paid. The great industrial triumphs of the nineteenth century were due to the substitution of steam power and machinery for muscular energy and the old handicraft methods. One of the greatest advances of this century has been the acceptance of the principles of mass production in modern factories. The case of the motor-car has been used as an example, but many other industries have adopted the same principle, especially the electrical, which is ever in a splendid position to send out reliable machinery designed to take full advantage of the new ideas which mass production involves.

"THE PAGEANT OF PEKING"

Nov. 16.

YEARS ago, when reviewing Mr. Donald Mennie's first published collection of pictures of Chinese life, we said that surely he deserved some special recognition at the hands of Chinese. For without going more than a few miles from Shanghai, he had shown the essential beauty and grandeur and, in these bustling greedy days it must be added, the melancholy, which tinges every aspect of China. He showed what she had been, is and would yet be. By exquisite selection, he had brought into his pictures the very spirit of the Chinese people, and this not by the power of the brush, but by the sometimes despised and certainly much-abused camera; and all with so much vigour and realism that his photographs have become a better guide for those who wish to learn something about China, than are many learned treatises. Now, as in due course it was certain Mr. Mennie would do, he has gone to Peking and the result is this wonderful volume, which might without exaggeration be said to constitute an event not only of artistic, but of political importance.

Wherein lies the peculiar fascination of Peking? Mr. Putnam Weale attempts to analyse it in the historical notes, which, admirably concise and graphic, form no small part of the book's attraction. It is no discomplement to the writer to say that he has only succeeded in

describing. For indeed if Peking's fascination could be analysed and defined, it would disappear and with it Peking would become but a city of the dead and the glory of the race and their hope of being once more a great and not merely a big nation would have departed for ever. To the superficial view Peking is dirty, often dilapidated, always abominably dusty. With the Republic it has even lost much of the mystery which in Imperial days made it so thrilling and impressive—when the Forbidden City was truly forbidden and when, as the Emperors passed in procession through the streets, immense screens were hung along the road to keep off the gaze of the vulgar herd. Now almost any globetrotter may wander along that marvellous painted gallery in the Summer Palace to which Mr. Mennie tempts us, or about the lake which Kublai Khan stocked with "foison of fish of different kinds." Gone indeed are the days when tributary Princes from Mongolia, received in audience by the Emperor, had to lie flat on their faces, and might at the most catch a glimpse of the sacred back, when he had passed, by screwing round their heads as they lay. And yet Peking retains much of the atmosphere of those times; the hungry generations of political self-seekers have not altogether trodden down its magic and majesty. It is greater far than the men who inhabit it, greater even, as is the habit of the earth's ancient monuments, than they who conceived its imperial form and whose spirit still pervades its tremendous streets and weed-grown courts. Fallen from its high estate, the centre of miserable schemings and the stage of wretched plots, Peking remains, as Mr. Putnam Weale well puts it, the embodiment of "an Asiatic Caesarism that has never had a compeer."

This, and it is the peculiar triumph of his work, is what Mr. Mennie has so wonderfully shown us and that, it might be said, without any of the adventitious aid of brush work by which some photographers seek to give atmosphere to their products and to blot out what the camera inconveniently persists in seeing. Infinite patience and a true instinct for the one right moment are all his equipment. But these qualities are born not made, as

the results here prove. Even when he shows us something which probably figures in a dozen "Views of Peking," like the Confucius P'ailou, his picture is full of poetry and suggestiveness. Again, the roofs of the Forbidden City might in other hands be just a collection of roofs, quaintly shaped but nothing more. In Mr. Mennie's picture they are a historical drama of tremendous, heart-stirring import. His depiction of "The Road to the Western Hills" is an expression of all the unspeakable thoughts which its glamorous title sums up. And in that "Camel Study," beneath the mighty walls, one can conjure up visions of endless caravans, stretching across dusty deserts to the birth of the world. And with these monuments of the past one may specially value Mr. Mennie's representations of the human life of to-day: the muleteer struggling to help his beasts along through the blinding dust storm, perhaps the gem of the whole collection; the women chaffering at a gaily carved and painted stall; the carters and coolies under their heavy loads passing in and out of the Chien Mên; the hour of rest and the hungry folk clustered about an open-air cookshop.

"Peking is like an old warrior," says Mr. Putnam Weale, "who cannot think that the world can be governed except by the sword. This is the difficulty politically." Well, in these beautiful studies of Peking past and present, of the dead yet living monuments and of the living yet, as some pessimists would have us believe, dying people, Mr. Mennie does something to solve the problem. It has been said that Peking is frequently dirty and dilapidated. These superficial annoyances the photographs mercifully conceal; and in so doing they may be thought to present an allegory of China as she is to-day. Her faults are glaring enough no doubt; unlike some other countries it is her unloveliest side she offers first for consideration; and there are few observers abroad who can penetrate beyond the misgovernment from which she temporarily suffers. But as we study Mr. Mennie's pictures we may remember that these same majestic and vital scenes have survived a hundred periods of intrigue and chicanery and shame, and that in days to come the past ten years of disarray will seem a very small thing in the transition

from one epoch to another. For beneath all else, in the palaces that linger on from the past and the temples and halls where the spirit of China's ancestry lives unforgettably enshrined, lies the patience, the industry, the forbearance of Mr. Mennie's friends, muleteers and camel-drivers, farmers and artisans, coolies and shopmen; and these qualities, which make up the inborn civilization of China, cannot die.

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INFLUENCES IN GREECE

Nov. 17.

UP to the time of writing the results of the Greek elections have not been received, one of the latest messages, however, making the prediction that there will be a big majority for M. Venizelos and the Liberal Party. At first glance there would appear to be no reason to expect otherwise, but one feature of the situation may be said to qualify this view and to have introduced the danger of a reaction. This is the fact that Greece, in common with every other country, is dissatisfied with the consequences of the war. We were all told that the war was being fought to make the world a better place to live in, whereas we now know that to the great majority of people life is infinitely harder and not nearly so pleasant. We see before us years upon years of effort to wipe off war debts, and can find no surcease from heavy taxation during our lifetime. So it is in Greece, and the ex-King Constantine has been quick to realize that herein lay his opportunity. In spite of his innumerable blunders a certain low cunning is at his command, and perceiving that discontent always has a tendency to blame a present administration for whatever is wrong, he set to work early in the year. His method was to throw doubts on the ability of M. Venizelos to pull the country out of its difficulties, and from

his home in Switzerland he distributed hints not only in Greece but also in the Allied countries of the desirability of his restoration. The untimely death of his son, King Alexander, has given him the most favourable opportunity to put his scheme into operation. Hence the endeavours of his party at these elections.

In estimating the influences at work upon the minds of the electors we must consider Greece as a country apart, Constantine's relations solely *vis-à-vis* of his country, and M. Venizelos not as the loyal friend of the Entente but as the Greek patriot. The opposition of Constantine towards the Entente might not appear a defect in the mind of a Greek when he remembers that the King probably honestly believed that Germany was bound to win the war. But when it comes to the country's solemn obligation to implement a treaty by going to the assistance of Serbia when Bulgaria attacked in the latter half of 1915 the position is different. In answer to Bulgaria's threat the King agreed to the mobilization of the Greek army and the sending of the invitation to the Entente to land a force in Greece. But then his treachery displayed itself, no assistance was allowed to be sent to the gallant ally of the Baltic League, and soon the Entente troops were attacked at his instigation. He was undoing all the work of M. Venizelos. It is proved beyond all doubt to-day that he was selling the country to Germany. The Greeks saw the fortifications of Rupel handed over to their enemies the Bulgars without the firing of a shot, they saw bands of Reservists formed to ambush the Allied troops who had been asked to come, they heard the divine right of kings proclaimed as an excuse for violating the constitution, they saw Greek troops handed over to Germany, in fact the national honour was in every way compromised. It was the work of M. Venizelos to undo this, and it required a definite break with King Constantine.

The fact that the great statesman was able to pull his country out of the mire, restore its prestige among the nations of the world and lead it to victory would, one might expect, give M. Venizelos an unassailable position to-day. When dissatisfaction is rife, however, there is

always the chance of the masses in their anger turning against their benefactors, and it is this which has given the Greek elections their particular importance, and afforded Constantine probably the only hope left to him of regaining his crown. We must remember that M. Venizelos hesitated long before he set up the standard of revolution by the creation of the Provisional Government in Salonika, knowing, as he did, that the feelings of a large number of people invariably assume a strong royalist bent when royalty is threatened. We may anticipate some such feeling during the present elections when there has been talk of a republic should the young Prince Paul be unwilling to accept the conditions likely to be offered him. After the deplorable conduct of Constantine, his treachery to his country, let alone his allies, it is perhaps surprising that any such feeling should exist in his favour, but we have been prepared for it by the earlier speculations on the outcome of the elections. It should, however, be less powerful now than in 1916 when M. Venizelos was contemplating the establishment of his Government at Salonika. The facts of Constantine's intrigues against M. Venizelos, his surrender of fortified places to Bulgaria, his attempt to dispose of the Greek people body and soul to the Kaiser, are to-day public property, and the glamour which once surrounded his position must largely have disappeared.

GENERAL WRANGEL'S DEFEAT

Nov. 18.

WHILE the world will undoubtedly applaud the heroic fight of General Wrangel against forces so overwhelming that defeat was a certainty, it cannot but be dismayed by the far-reaching effects that such a victory must involve. And while these are, of course, matters of speculation, a study of the events leading up to the débâcle in the Crimea should prove more interesting and decidedly more helpful in appreciating the dangers which are now threatening the world. It will be remembered that the early summer saw a Bolshevik attack on Poland which met with practically overwhelming success, so much so that by the beginning

of July the British Government had taken upon itself to interfere on behalf of the Poles, suggesting an armistice and threatening that there would be no resumption of trade with Russia unless the Soviet agreed to talk peace. In the flush of repeated victory the Bolsheviks refused to entertain British proposals, but by July 25 they agreed to negotiate an armistice commencing from July 30, with the venue at Minsk. It was from this point that Soviet treachery became more than usually pronounced. Two days later, in spite of their consenting to negotiate, they began a great attack along the whole front, which by July 29 had taken the Red armies 25 miles over the Polish frontier. Brest Litovsk fell at the beginning of August and by the fifth of that month the Red troops were within thirty miles of Warsaw.

The next day saw the commencement of the Polish counter-offensive, a remarkable effort in view of the unvaried series of disasters which had previously befallen their arms, and a wonderful tribute to the national spirit of the country, which rose practically *en masse*. The Poles seemed to have done more for themselves than had the Allies, for on August 13 it was learnt that Great Britain had advised them to accept the Bolshevik terms if they were *bonâ fide*. It was stated that the British people would not accept a declaration of war in aid of Poland, who was apparently the recipient of little more than moral support, *plus* supplies. But under the direction of French generals the Polish armies developed their counter-offensive in a most impressive manner. The Reds were routed and in three weeks 70,000 men, and 300 guns fell into their hands. The negotiations at Minsk were broken off and the Poles looked to be in a fair way of giving the invaders a particularly distasteful dose of their own medicine. It is not clear how far the Allies put the drag on the victorious Poles, but the fact that the United States sent a note expressing the hope that Poland's defensive action would not develop into an offensive war is a fair indication of the Allied policy. It is a long jump from those times to October 3, but by that date no fewer than 26 divisions of the Red Armies had been smashed and three days

later the defeated Russians were again willing to sign an armistice and negotiate a preliminary peace in order to avoid a winter campaign. A fortnight later Poland's terms were accepted. In the meantime Gen. Wrangel from the Crimea had been pursuing a victorious campaign. He had received the recognition of the French and at one time was said to be near joining up with the Poles.

Freed from their engagement with the latter, the Reds were at liberty to turn their attention to General Wrangel and the first news of the impending great stroke which was planned against him was the telegram reporting the massing of 100,000 bayonets behind the Volga. The attack opened about October 30, and by November 8 it was reported that General Wrangel had suffered a defeat which put him into retreat and eventually led to the appalling situation described in the cables published yesterday. Slight as this outline is, it serves to demonstrate how necessary it is that, if the Allies can give no assistance to those European people fighting against Bolshevism, they should refrain from interference of any sort whatever. The hampering of the Poles in the first instance by advice, well meant undoubtedly, but apparently without any statesmanlike anticipation of the results of such action, was the first step in the wrong direction. It is easy to be wise after the event, but it was always on the cards that the Bolsheviks would take peace at any price from the Poles if it left them free to deal with General Wrangel's armies, whereas it is by no means unlikely that but for the advice of the Allies the Poles would have continued their campaign into Bolshevik territory with prospects of inflicting such punishment as would have forced a general peace upon the aggressors. It is this same respect for frontiers in time of war which has made the peace with Germany so lame an affair. It has now led to the annihilation of a most gallant army, the destruction of the hopes of those who detest the Reds and all their ways, and a considerable loss of face to the European Powers opposed to the policies of Lenin and Trotsky, who by this success will probably find their weakening hold on Russia greatly strengthened.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Nov. 19.

THE League of Nations has met in full council, it has arranged its method of procedure and settled down to some three or four weeks' work. That the League as at present constituted and formed is an imperfect, it might almost be said a crippled, institution, cannot be denied. America still stands aloof, dissatisfied and mistrustful of the formula conceived at Versailles. But it is inconceivable that the intensely patriotic American people can endure to stay for long apart from this great international effort to substitute the rule of justice for the sword. Germany remains excluded until, as a Power, she gives surer proofs of good faith than the most lenient critic has yet been able to detect in her conduct. With others of our former enemies public opinion seems likely to prove more lenient. There remains Russia, the most serious of all cases of non-membership. If we remember rightly, the Soviet is not only not applying for membership of the League but openly derides it, as from the professions of leading Bolsheviks it may well do. The League may prove wiser than individual nations in dealing with Russia, but as Russia's cure must come from within one doubts it. For the moment the Russian canker remains one of the saddest, most horrible afflictions that the world has seen.

These deficiencies must seriously mar the League's effectiveness and are more than enough to justify any pessimism as to its future in which onlookers may please to indulge. Even if all the nations were represented at Geneva to-day, it would be easy to find reasons for doubting whether the League can ever be worth more than the old Hague Tribunal. We have had plenty of such doubts ourselves, and we cannot pretend that we have yet heard any arguments which entirely quieten them. But we are not going to dwell upon them, because of the tremendous ideal which this assemblage presents and the number of earnest and influential men in all countries there represented, who are determined to devote their whole life and energy to its realization. As Lord Robert Cecil said at the Albert Hall a year and a half

ago, the League of Nations is no new idea; it was advocated by Elizabeth of England, by Henri IV of France, by Alexander of Russia. But though often dreamed of, it has never actually been tried until to-day. And if hitherto it has done nothing to overcome the evils from which the world is suffering, it must be remembered that both those evils and the League arise from a common source, namely, war, amid whose terrible and inevitable aftermath it would be too much to expect that the League should spring to birth, Athena-like, ready armed. It may take years before the ideals it embodies can be achieved. The important fact is that so many nations are willing to try to give them a chance of fructifying.

The test of the present Conference will be its ability to persuade all the nations concerned in it to agree to compulsory arbitration. We do not expect it to secure reduction of armaments, because so long as any one nation continues to pile up a big fleet or a big army, it is humanly impossible to expect other nations to refrain from doing likewise. But if they can be got to agree to give arbitration a chance before they marshal those armies and despatch those fleets, then the possibilities of actual warfare are very greatly diminished. Had Sir Edward Grey's earnest appeal for a conference been successful in 1914, the war could hardly have ensued. Of course we have to prepare for the possibility of a nation being as determined to fight as Germany was in 1914; and against this, and to enforce arbitration, the League suggests the weapon of an economic blockade. Its efficiency can only be proved on trial. Meanwhile there is one course to which the League must devote itself, namely the education of all nations and individuals to their own vital interest in the League. The word democracy is, perhaps, slightly discredited nowadays, certainly overworked. But in one respect the world pays practical reverence to it: that never before have the peoples been so firmly resolved that they and not their Governments shall have the final say in issues of war or peace. It is upon the peoples of the world and upon their appreciation of the great purpose at stake, that the League of Nations depends for success or failure.

NOTES & COMMENTS

The Divorce Law

The announcement, which we publish in another column, to the effect that jurisdiction in divorce has been granted to H. M. Supreme Court, will be read with considerable interest. It has long been a matter for comment that whereas it was possible for other nationalities to obtain divorce here in Shanghai, a Briton had to resort to the Home Courts at considerable inconvenience and no little expense. That matter has been, we understand, under discussion for some little time past and in certain circles it was felt that it was one which should be speedily rectified. The British Government in this case seems to have forestalled any representations that might have been made upon the subject. It is not usually the case that a newspaper pleads for the shutting off of an available source of good "copy," but in this instance we are sure we are voicing the feelings of our readers when we ask that proceedings in divorce jurisdiction should be as private as they are in some of the Courts of other nationalities in Shanghai. The publication of the judgement in such a case would be all that should be necessary for the information of the general public. There is certainly no reason why the facts leading up to that decision should be published for the edification of the sensation-mongers and it is to be hoped that this point will not be overlooked by the authorities.

The Little Wooden Hut

A few months ago Shanghai displayed a certain curiosity upon the subject of wooden houses. It was more an academic curiosity than anything else, although a number of people were undoubtedly impressed with the scheme as a means of solving the housing problem, but beyond hopes and aspirations the matter seems never to have gone. Now, however, we find that Japan has been on the same track, although whether it caught the infection from Shanghai or cultivated it as a home product we are unable to say. At any rate she has acted, and the first wooden house of the ready-made pattern has just been shipped from Seattle. A doctor in Tokio is the purchaser, and the house is described as one of the largest and most expensive of its kind. Furthermore, orders for nine other of these houses have been received from Tokio, so it looks as if Japan were taking a tangible interest in the business. Meanwhile Shanghai still suffers from a shortage of houses, nor, so far as we can learn, is immediate relief probable. Which leads to the conclusion that the physician of Tokio and the other nine purchasers of ready-made houses are going to be lucky people.

Loans to Peking

The National Organizations Union of China, whose headquarters are in the Rue Amiral Bayle, sends us a copy of a letter to the Diplomatic Body in Peking protesting against loans to the Chinese Government. Two or three sentences must suffice:—

In summer, last year, our friendly countries announced that no country should supply money, or war implements to China before solution of her situation.

But to our surprise, we learn from the press that the New Consortium has been positively formed at New York and Mr. Stephens of Morgan's Syndicate has been appointed representative.

The Peking Government, taking advantage of the surrender of Tsen Chun-huan and Lu Yung-ting, attempts to blind our friendly countries with the name of "Unification" and play the same game as before with the New Consortium—to swindle money for the private ends of Hsu Shih-chang and the militarists and officials.

Thus, if the New Consortium lend money to China in this critical time, it is equivalent to giving arms to the militarists and officials that they may butcher our people. We think our friendly countries will not do so, because a good will in intention will turn into a bad one in result.

The National Organizations Union may be assured that the New Consortium is a good deal better informed about China than they think and that no money would be lent without adequate security against the sort of thing they fear. But this assurance has been given many times with no apparent results. There are many influences working against the Consortium in China, some it is to be feared, for their own end, others, like the one here quoted, sincerely enough. Their arguments are wrong as regards the Consortium, but one begins to wonder whether, in the present circumstances, it would not be best for the latter to refuse all loans (unless for famine relief) until the present Administration mends or ends.

What is a Talon?

Nothing but sympathy can be felt for "Straphanger," who, in his letter published to-day, asks, "What is a Talon, and why is it?" The answer to this is, however, easier to be found than that to the old question of "why is a mouse when it spins?" and a little research gave us the information which our correspondent desires. A "talon" is the last portion of a sheet of coupons—a series of interest certificates or dividend warrants attached to a bond running for a number of years—entitling the holder when all the coupons have been presented to obtain a fresh coupon sheet. That is the sense in which it is used in the Tramway Co.'s notification. Another meaning of "talon" is "that part of a pack of cards remaining after the hands have been dealt: the stocks." That is what a talon is. Why it is, we don't know, but we hope that "Straphanger" will feel somewhat better for the small amount of aid we have been able to administer to his distress.

Japan's Spy Scare

According to a telegram from Japan, an active spy scare is abroad in that country. This is the second occasion on which maps and military secrets are said to have been in peril, and we believe that in both cases the explanations forthcoming must have satisfied the authorities that the foreign country alleged to be implicated was entirely innocent, not only in act but in thought. We must remember, of course, that Japanese feelings are deeply stirred at the moment over the issue in California; and with our own case of a few years back in mind, we need see nothing unusual in the present scare. Our most noteworthy incident—round about the time of Agadir—was the "scare-ship" which, it was reported, was spying out the land. It turned out to be an airship of sorts, dropping leaflets to advertise somebody's pills; and it was promptly pointed out that anybody in the world could buy ordnance maps of the country without the least trouble, and save themselves the bother of using aircraft. We happened to be a trifle nervous at the time and for the moment were apt to see ghosts. In the Japanese case to-day it seems fairly well established that a warrant-officer was trying to buy wealth at his country's expense, but it is another question whether he could possibly have had anything worth selling. When a spy scare is on, it is always advisable to remember that side of the question. The war showed that espionage, as it was actually carried on, hardly squared with popular imagination or the ideas of penny-dreadful writers.

Aerial Lloyds

Probably the most convincing proof of the firmness with which commercial aviation is established as an integral part of the world's life is to be found in the fact that the British Committee of Lloyds has decided to compile an aviation record on the same lines as the world-famous Register of Shipping. The first part to be produced will contain information concerning aircraft and pilots; and in the course of time it is certain that the record will be every whit as complete as is the Register. Not only is this proof of the fact that commercial aviation has come to stay in the world, but it is an indication of the sound lines on which British enterprise has been working. Our aircraft people set to work on European air routes almost as soon as the war was at an end, and large extensions are in prospect. Not only so, but it has been demonstrated that travel by air can be made comparatively cheap, as in the case of an airman who took himself from England to Italy at the cost of a few pounds. Now Lloyds has come along to reduce the whole matter to statistics and tabulated information, and when Lloyds does this the sceptics must take a back seat.

China's Railways

Sir Charles Addis's statement of the Consortium's policy regarding railways in China is appropriately followed by the report we publish to-day of the recent railway conference in Peking. The object of that conference, briefly, was to promote a uniform system throughout China's railways and through booking of goods and passengers. As regards goods it is noted that through booking will become possible from January 1 next. The Ministry of Communications is deserving of much congratulation on this innovation. Peking Ministries not commonly receiving much praise, it is the more important to recognize whatever good work they do, and while the Ministry of Communications has managed to secure some of the ablest men in Peking, so also has it done a good deal of useful work in various unperceived ways and might have done more but for the war lords. China has one great advantage in starting late in the day to build railways: that she can profit by the example of others and can from the outset see that one line works in harmony with another and that a uniform system prevails through all. This is clearly the aim to which the Ministry of Communications has set itself, and the statement of the same ideal by the Consortium is very interesting, as if that body had already been indirectly communicating with the Ministry.

The Land of Failure

In the case of General Wrangel as with his predecessor the end seems to have come with dramatic suddenness. After his push against Moscow, General Denikin had to fall back rapidly, and while his army was disintegrating in the Crimea he himself was a fugitive. General Wrangel, his cavalry leader, then did one of the wonderful things of war; he collected the fragments of that army, returned to the offensive almost without loss of time and seemed in a fair way to retrieving a lost cause. The Polish offensives took much of the weight of the Red army off his front, and he gained successes and much territory. It was, however, a forlorn hope that he was leading, and when the armistice with Poland set free the bulk of the Soviet forces his position became one of much peril. His army seems to have collapsed as rapidly as did General Denikin's, and one report puts him as already a refugee under French protection. Apparently, it is too much to be feared, another has to be added to the list of tragic failures which have punctuated recent Russian history. Before the end came, he asked General Townshend, the defender of Kut, to take over the command. It makes strange reading at a time when the latter is contesting a by-election in England, and is one of those mysterious episodes about the inner history of which we would wish to hear more.

Bolshevik Bureaucrats

In another column we produce an account by Captain Francis McCullagh of how in Moscow you may post letters free, but they get nowhere; or travel free by trains, only they never start; or in tram cars, except that none ply. So much for the blessings of nationalization. But if the public get nothing out of it, the bureaucrats do. Herr Dittman, the German Independent Socialist whom there appears no reason to disbelieve, states after a visit to Moscow in search of information that the whole Bolshevik Party, according to its own statistics, numbers 604,000. Of these 70,000 are workmen and 6,000 shopmen; the remaining 533,000 are classed as party officials, trade union and co-operative society officials, army, State, and municipal officials. Herr Dittman adds, "Even the patient Muscovites are grumbling at the slowness and inefficiency of this gigantic bureaucratic machine." What strikes one most, however, is the extraordinary tenacity with which these bureaucrats have managed to fasten themselves upon Russia. Before the war Russia's population was approximately, we think, 160,000,000. No doubt war, disease and terrorism have cut down the numbers. But 533,000 bureaucrats must still work out at a very small percentage of the population. Their strength of course lies in the fact that they are organized and their opponents not. And this fact continues to bar the way of Russia's return to sanity. For one does not foresee much employment for a Bolshevik *ronde-cuir* under any other system.

British First Please

Although the war is two years over, and available shipping has increased enormously, the difficulty of getting passages, in either direction, between England and the Far East is a matter of common knowledge. Which makes the following well authenticated incident the more—shall we say astonishing? One of our readers met in Shanghai a German whom he had known before the war. Knowing also that the German had been deported from China last year, he expressed surprise at seeing him. It appeared that the German had gone from Hamburg to Grimsby, thence to Liverpool and there had obtained passage by a well known British line. When asked how, he answered with a satisfied smile: "Oh I've a bit of a pull at the offices." Now considering that there are British firms in the Far East, short-handed, and with men at home ready to come out, but for whom applications for passages at any and every shipping agency have failed, this sort of thing is calculated to make one feel hot under the collar. If it is an isolated instance, this note may be a warning to others not to do likewise. But is it?

The Reach-Me-Down

The high cost of clothing has given the ready-made suit a popularity in England, hitherto unknown, and it will not be surprising if in the future it displaces to quite a large extent the article made to measure. It must be remembered, of course, that we are no longer dealing with the shoddy suit which used to be seen in the windows and doors of cheap shops, ranging from a boy's size at something like seven and sixpence to a full-grown man's Sunday attire. Instead we have a production which is said to be hardly distinguishable from the suit made to measure. So much was demonstrated at the clothing and outfitting exhibition held during the summer at Islington, and it is worthy of note that these ready-mades are now produced in first-class cloth and with as much attention to good linings, etc., as are to be found in the tailor-made. England has succeeded in mass production so far as clothes are concerned, and, according to all reports, the country is likely to maintain its supremacy in this form of tailoring, as it has ever done in the other. It is, of course, somewhat difficult to get accustomed to the idea of a reach-me-down, no matter how well tailored, but as things are at present there is every inducement to make the change. Ten guineas for a suit of clothes is not to be considered lightheartedly, and when funds are not over plentiful even the fastidious might content himself with something which is said to look as good at a third of the price.

Anti-Profiteering

In no case that we can call to mind have commissions dealing with profiteering been able to bring forward any really effective plans to curb the vice. Rather in the majority of instances have they either proved that they were helpless or that profiteering was non-existent. The results of a commission appointed in Singapore to go into the matter have just been issued and they form no exception to the general rule, the outstanding feature of the recommendations being greater municipal and governmental activity. As regards rents, property owners are allowed a 20 per cent. increase as compared with December 31, 1915, and a further increase of 20 per cent. will be allowed at the end of the first and second years from the first increase. It is not quite clear what this means, whether, if there had been an increase in 1916, for instance, the landlord could lay on another 40 per cent. at once. But at any rate it looks as if houses in Singapore will soon be 60 per cent. dearer than in the early war days. Still that is nothing much, for surely we have had a case of nearly 300 per cent. of an increase in Shanghai, and with no means of bringing the culprit to book. As we have already mentioned, the rest of the report suggests municipal and gov-

ernmental action in the way of providing facilities for the importation of food and labour and the opening up of quarries, etc., for building material. But, in effect, these are only aids towards H.C.L. reduction rather than an assault on the profiteer.

Little Hsu's Escape

Whatever may be said against the Chinese Government, and however little it may be entitled to respect as an administration, it is recognized by the Powers as representative of China; and as such it may justly resent the discourteous behaviour of the Japanese Minister in respect of the escape of "Little Hsu." We regret to have to speak in such terms of the representative of the ally of Great Britain. But if ever China were justified in protesting it is now, and we trust it will be made plain to her that other nations wish to dissociate themselves wholly from the Japanese Minister's conduct. There was never any justification politically or by international law in Mr. Obata's allowing Hsu to use his Legation as an asylum: but as he did so, the least he could do would have been to see that the Anfu leader did not escape. Not only, however, did Mr. Obata not take this precaution, but when Hsu is found to have got away before the morning of the 15th, he waits until the 16th before informing the Waichiaopu. And even then his note is of a general tone to which strong exception could well be taken. The whole story is coloured with a rudeness such as is inconceivable in the case of any country better able to avenge an insult than China.

A Spade Indeed

Everyone who is capable of forming an opinion is entitled to have it and no one will begrudge "Spade" his little grouse which appears in our correspondence columns. But whether there is anyone else who will agree with him is entirely another matter. We certainly do not, and the criticism of the production which appears in this issue is to be taken as a sincere appreciation of the merits and demerits of a very successful production. As to the humour of "The Belle of New York" the crowded houses that have attended the performances have found much cause for genuine laughter. The music has stood the test of a quarter of a century and is as popular as ever. Without charm it would have died a natural death. But in these and the judgement on the artists and scenery there must be the factor of individual taste. "Spade's" taste certainly fails to agree with that of the majority who have seen the piece. Nevertheless he is entitled to his opinion as we are to ours and we have no hesitation in saying that the performance as a whole is a decided success and a most praiseworthy effort.

CHINESE POLITICS

THE ATTACK ON URGU

Timely Arrival of Chinese Reinforcements

Peking, Nov. 12.

Various reports show that the force attacking Urgu did not enter the city. The Chinese official reports that the enemy numbered 2,000 are confirmed.

Gen. Chen-Yi's statement that the enemy consisted mainly of Japanese is not credited, though some Japanese may have joined in this filibustering expedition, in which Russians, Mongols and Buriats predominate.

All reports agree that the Chinese suffered heavily from gun and machine-gun fire.

The enemy would have entered the city but for the timely arrival of Chinese reinforcements. One report says definitely that Baron Ungern was leading the invaders, yet it is known that his main force is still in Siberia.

The 600 Russians in Urgu have been treated cruelly. It appears that the Mongols planned to kill all the Chinese troops some weeks prior to the fighting, and warned certain foreigners to remain indoors and keep indoors all their servants on a certain night, on which, however, nothing happened, either because of the non-arrival of the invaders, or because the Chinese had learned of the plot.

Apart from the Russians, the foreign residents do not appear to have suffered, though their comings and goings are being very closely supervised.

Mr. Mills, an American engineer, has remained at Urgu, refusing to desert a sick Russian friend, and a party of Americans is now on its way to Urgu with a view to securing Mr. Mills' safety. Mr. Dockray, a British wireless expert, accompanies the party.—Reuter.

Peking, Nov. 15.

The American party which has reached Urgu has reported that the conditions there are very bad, owing to the want of control over the Chinese soldiery.

General Chen Yi has also arrived at Urgu, where he reports that the situation is quiet. All the Americans, he says, are safe and healthy.—Reuter.

City Looted by Chinese

The "Russian Echo" publishes the following disquieting account of the situation in Urgu.

From the hurriedly written and hardly legible letters or rather scraps of paper just received from Urgu under date November 1 we learn that Urgu has been looted by the Chinese garrison. The premises of Andersen, Meyer & Co. and the Mongolian Trading Co. were absolutely demolished. The Prokin building of the Central Co-operative Co., which housed the employees of the firm, has been

burned and the furniture looted. The Russian Consulate has been destroyed and pillaged. The Russian population is taking refuge in the stone building of the late Mongolore Co.

The looting began just after the bombardment of the city by Ungern. The latter is close to Urgu with a force of about 4,500 men, but dare not advance lest the Russians inside be massacred. No news is yet available about killed or wounded.

MONGOLIANS RISING.

Yogdo Gegen, a Mongolian dignitary, has been arrested, and all the valuables in his house, including jewellery, have been seized by the Chinese.

A rising is taking place which hundreds of Mongols are joining. Erdin is forming Mongol regiments.

Postal and telegraphic communication is cut off, and to leave or enter Urgu is strictly forbidden. All motor cars have been seized by the Chinese for war purposes.

TWO STORIES.

Peking, Nov. 17.

According to a Chinese official message from Urgu, that place is in no immediate danger, though the Russians are receiving strong reinforcements. On the other hand, a Japanese official report describes the situation at Urgu as most dangerous, and the Legation has asked the Waichiaopu to safeguard the ten Japanese subjects there.

The American party which went to Urgu is reported to be leaving there this morning, but it is doubtful whether Mr. Wills will leave, as the Chinese authorities are refusing sanction for the departure of his Russian friend, M. Fittinghough.—Reuter.

RUSSIAN STATUS IN CHINA

Protracted Discussion with Legations

Peking, Nov. 13.

The Diplomatic Corps yesterday discussed the recent reply from the Waichiaopu, expressing readiness to discuss with the Foreign Minister concerned any question in which the interests of his nationals might be involved, but not conceding the necessity for any action on the part of the corps as a whole to secure a *modus vivendi* safeguarding foreign interests generally in the Russian concessions.

The Waichiaopu's reply to the Russian representations also entered into discussions, in which there appeared to be an inclination to settle some definite principles, notably of matters affecting Russians and other foreigners alike, but one Minister thought it necessary to refer the matter to his Home Government, and no definite action was adopted.

M. Grosse, the Russian Consul-General at Shanghai, visited the Waichiaopu this afternoon, hoping to secure some tangible result re-

garding the administration of Russians in China, as the Chinese reply is said to have somewhat overlooked the application of Russian law.—Reuter.

THE HUNGCHUN AFFAIR

Reported Chinese Attitude

Peking, Nov. 12.

The Cabinet yesterday discussed the Japanese Note regarding Hungchun. It is understood that it was decided to accept the Japanese conditions concerning the stationing of sufficient troops to maintain order, but to deny that the Japanese have the right again to despatch troops in the event of further disturbances.—Reuter.

STUDENTS' PROCESSION.

Peking, Nov. 18.

The students' procession yesterday afternoon entered the grounds of the Waichiaopu, and insisted on seeing the Minister. Dr. Yen came out, and, addressing the whole body, affirmed that he was ready to bear the full responsibility for the proper settlement of the Hungchun incident. He would, he said, do his best to preserve the interests of the country and people.

The students were delighted at Dr. Yen's frank attitude, which they describe as "differing greatly from that of his predecessors." The procession thereafter broke up.—Reuter.

JAPANESE OPERATIONS AT HUNGCHUN.

Tokio, Nov. 12.

A Japanese detachment is reported to have routed a band of outlaws northeast of Hungchun, killing many. The Japanese casualties were one killed and one wounded.

Outlaws in the Mozan district are reported to be surrendering and promising allegiance to Japan.

According to the "*Nichi Nichi*," six Japanese scouts were killed in an encounter with 800 Korean outlaws near Mukden. The "*Nichi Nichi*" says the Koreans were armed with machine-guns.—Reuter.

THE FOOCHOW INCIDENT

Japanese Expression of Regret

Peking, Nov. 12.

The Japanese Legation this morning sent two notes to the Waichiaopu; the first expressing Japan's regret for the Foochow incident, and the second containing the other terms of settlement, as already announced. The Chinese Government will now respond, expressing regret for the boycott, and accepting the other terms.—Reuter.

The Nikolaievsk Affair

Peking, Nov. 15.

Replying to the recent Japanese Note, demanding, *inter alia*, an apology from the Chinese Govern-

ment on account of the Nikolaievsk affair, the Waichiaopu denies the necessity for the Government to apologize. It contends that an apology from the local officials should be sufficient, together with the punishment of the offenders.—Reuter.

THE FIGHTING IN THE SOUTH

Serious Cantonese Reverses

Canton, Nov. 10.

Gen. Chen Chiung-ming has formally assumed the positions of Civil Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Military Government.

The Cantonese troops have met with serious reverses at Shiuhing, which is held by Kuangsi forces, with their head-quarters at Wuchow.

The merchants of Canton are raising \$1,000,000 in aid of the Cantonese army.

A committee is raising funds to aid the war sufferers in the East River district with food and relief. The committee has already donated \$250,000.—Reuter.

KUANGTUNG'S COUNTER-OFFENSIVE.

Canton, Nov. 14.

Preparations are being made by the Cantonese for an attack against the Kuangsi-ites at Shiuhing.

General Chen Chiung-ming has appointed Wong Keong as Superintendent of Customs at Canton.

The citizens have subscribed \$1,000,000 as a loan to the Canton Government.

Admiral Tang Ting-kuang has informed the Government that he has handed over his seal of office to General Chen Chiung-ming, as he is resuming his naval work. He therefore intimates that he will accept no responsibility as regards Kuangtung affairs.—Reuter.

Fresh Yunnanese Offensive Against Szechuan

Peking, Nov. 15.

Gen. Liu Tseng-hou has reported from Szechuan that Tang Chi-yao's army has reached Kienwei, some 100 miles south of Chengtu, with the intention of recapturing the latter. Liu has asked the Central Government to send ammunition, in order to enable him to defend the city.—Reuter.

Chang Tso-lin's Envoy in Japan

Tokio, Nov. 17.

Yu Hung-chan, Chang Tso-lin's representative, arrived here to-day. He has made the statement that his visit is unofficial, and has for its object to promote more friendly relations between China and Japan.

Before securing that, Chang Tso-lin is of opinion that a really pro-Japanese Cabinet should be formed in Peking. He intends visiting the Premier and others in responsible positions with this end in view.—Reuter.

LITTLE HSU AT LARGE

Peking, Nov. 16.

According to the Detective Department, Little Hsu escaped from the Japanese Legation yesterday morning. An important statement on the subject is expected momentarily from the Legation.—Reuter.

THE JAPANESE MINISTER TO THE WAICHIAOPU.

Peking, Nov. 16.

Mr. Obata, the Japanese Minister, to-day sent the following official note to the Waichiaopu: "I have the honour to inform your Excellency that Hsu Shu-tseng repeatedly communicated to me his desire to withdraw from the refuge of this Legation and to leave the Legation guard compound which has been his place of shelter, and that each time I strongly urged his reconsideration. I have now received a report from the commandant of the Legation Guard that Hsu Shu-tseng, who was in the Legation compound on the night of the 14th instant, was not visible next morning and could not be discovered in the compound.

"It must be concluded from the above that Hsu Shu-tseng secretly stole out between the night of the 14th and the next morning.

"In thus communicating the above fact to your Excellency with as little delay as possible, in the same spirit as that in which I informed you that I had consented to give Hsu Shu-tseng and others refuge, on the ground of general international practice, and with no ulterior intention on my part, I avail, etc."

CHINA'S POINTED REPLY.

The Waichiaopu, replying to the Note from the Japanese Legation regarding the escape of Hsu Shu-tseng draws attention to the Japanese Note of August 9, in which an undertaking was given that all communication between the Anfu-ites and the outside world should be restricted, and that the latter would be warned to refrain from political activities.

The Note asks the reason for the long interval between the escape of "Little Hsu" and the notification to the Chinese Government. The Note further requests the Legation to hand over the remaining eight Anfu-ites, in view of the apparent inability of the Legation Guard to prevent their escape.—Reuter.

Peking, Nov. 18.

Although the Chinese reply to the Note from Mr. Obata, containing the information of Hsu Shu-tseng's escape, was drafted yesterday morning, it was held over, pending the approval of the Cabinet, which was given this morning.—Reuter.

Local Autonomy in China

Peking, Nov. 17.

A Mandate is issued this evening, instructing the provincial authorities to prepare for local self-government. Another Mandate contains a notification that the forthcoming election will be conducted under the law of 1912, but it does not fix the date.—Reuter.

THE CONSORTIUM

Sir C. Addis and Japan

London, Nov. 12.

The first important public statement in this country in reference to the China Consortium was made by Sir Charles Addis (who headed the British delegation at the recent conference) in the course of a speech at the annual dinner of the China Association. He said that if he were asked to define in a single sentence the principle on which the new Consortium was founded, he would say it was the substitution of international co-operation in China for international competition.

The speaker paid tribute to the loyal support of his Japanese colleagues during the negotiations. He said there had recently been some misunderstanding about Japan, and he wanted to make it abundantly clear that he was sure Japan would carry out the new agreement both in the spirit and the letter.

RAILWAY EXPANSION.

Sir Charles declared that an important step gained was that the Consortium ensured that any expansion of the Shantung Railway would (? accrue) to the Consortium as a whole, and not to any individual nation. Unification of the whole railway system was now part of the declared policy of the Consortium, and part of its programme was to entrust the administration to the Department of Communications in Peking. It was proposed that the chairman of the board should be the Minister himself, assisted by four Chinese colleagues, and four foreign engineers.

It was, he said, the earnest desire of the Consortium to assist China in obtaining, through the establishment of a strong, suitable central government, a degree of security for the development of her immense resources, but the Chinese must appreciate that any reform worthy of the name must come from within. He believed that China would be well advised to accept the Consortium's offer of cooperation in the work of reform in the spirit in which it was made.

SPEECH BY SIR JOHN JORDAN.

Sir John Jordan, in a subsequent speech, emphasized the need of the Chinese people for education. In this connexion, he expressed his belief that, if British merchants took the lead, the Government would follow. He hoped we should help the 20 millions of people in China who were at present in danger of starvation. He also expressed his confidence that, if she were given time, China would work out her own salvation.—Reuter.

(Note.—The above message has been mutilated by the omission of some words in transmission.)—Reuter.

THE CONSORTIUM AWAITS NEWS.

New York, Nov. 16.

The correspondent here of the "Japan Advertiser," of Tokio,

learns from highly authoritative sources to-day that representatives of the New Consortium in New York are anxiously awaiting a reply to a message sent to Peking. This was in the form of a telegram despatched after the Consortium negotiations here about 12 weeks ago, and is understood to have been the second and revised outline of the Consortium's programme forwarded to Peking. The Consortium's representatives here are deferring action, pending the arrival of a reply.—Reuter.

A Shantung Telegram to Washington

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsinanfu, Nov. 14.

The Provincial Assembly of Shantung on November 13 sent the following telegram to Senator Harding upon his election to the American Presidency:

Having recently learnt that in the cause of justice you have emphatically declared against the Shantung Articles in the Peace Treaty, the Chinese Nation and the People of this Province in particular, are extremely grateful to you. In congratulating you upon your election to the Presidency, we wish to express our deep

conviction that you will extend the glory of your country and advance the welfare of humanity.

A Domestic Loan

Peking, Nov. 12.

The "Official Gazette" states that a domestic loan of \$4,000,000 has been secured on inland revenues. Thus it appears that it is not intended to replace the suggested foreign loan, secured on the salt and customs surtaxes.—Reuter.

PEKING, Nov. 17.—A telegram from Manchulie (Manchuria Station) reports fighting on the border on Monday, when shells fell in Manchulie township.—Reuter.

It is reported, by the "Peking Daily News" that in an interview with Dr. W. W. Yen, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the other day, Mr. Obata, the Japanese Minister, stated the readiness of the Japanese Government to cancel the Sino-Japanese Military Pact, provided that China grants Japan the right to station troops along the Chinese Eastern Railway. Mr. Obata's demand was, however, flatly rejected by Dr. Yen.

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VIEWS OF THE CHINESE PRESS

The Reunion Farce—A Scramble for Power—Chinese Banks and the Consortium—The Piracy Question—Chang Tso-lin's Schemes

The general situation regarding internal politics in China has undergone practically no change, since the President so solemnly announced the unification of the country. The Chinese Press has been very much on the alert, looking out for but failing to discover any signs of the numerous reforms, or even of any improvement in the administration of any of the government departments, so lavishly promised by the Premier and his colleagues.

Comments and criticism in the Chinese Press during the foregoing week cover a variety of subjects. The commemoration of the second anniversary of the Armistice Day by two minutes' silence is thought to be more becoming to the Allied countries than to observe the day in a mirthful manner, for war is, after all, a sad affair whatever result it may bring; especially so on the part of the Chinese, inasmuch as China has emerged from it more a loser than a gainer, while the restitution of Kiaochow seems to be more remote than ever now that the United States of America has definitely decided to take no part in the League of Nations' conferences.

The terms or conditions of the settlement of the Foochow and Hungchun incidents are regarded as far from satisfactory; and the more vehement papers consider them in the light of another diplomatic defeat for China. Japan's declaration of her readiness to discuss the abrogation of the Military Cooperation Compact with China is viewed with much suspicion. This pact was concluded at the time of the great war, and its object was to facilitate a joint defensive against the then common enemy, the Central Powers, if necessary. It should have been cancelled as soon as the war was ended. Why should Japan want any discussion on its abrogation when she can terminate it by addressing a Note to our Waichiao-pu? The Chinese Press believes that Japan is seeking to hoodwink the Chinese people by substituting some agreement equally if not more advantageous to herself and therefore obnoxious to China.

Rice dealers are again displaying their activity in hoarding and exporting this staple food to the annoyance of all thinking people. Prices have not yet regained the normal; and if smuggling is allowed to continue to any large extent, rice will soon soar to the heights attained this summer.

Questions concerning the holding of the coming provincial elections and the election of the next parliament, the qualifications of the electorate, how the people may purify the elections by their own efforts, and how to prevent or minimize abuses by not abandoning one's voting right, have been fully dealt with in the recent issues of the Chinese Press.

FARCICAL UNION AND FARCICAL SPLIT.

Under the above heading, the "Shunpao" comments on the present political situation as follows:

The West has a new method of curing all sorts of diseases, known as Christian Science. No medicine is required; one has only to concentrate one's mind on the belief that his or her disease is cured and it is cured. To our surprise, the Peking Government is also well versed in this marvellous science, for as soon as it began to think of union, it saw China was united! We do not blame the Southwest for calling it a farcical union. But by the way, is not the so-called "split" as farcical as the union?

The newspaper asks why both sides, so desirous of unity and peace, and so identical in their aims and objects as would appear from the circular telegrams they have issued, and being both controlled by militarists who act like twin brothers, cannot come to an understanding; and why they cannot fight their quarrel out if they cannot agree. If either side really believes itself to be in the right, they should fight their opponent with all their might in the cause of righteousness, and not devote their attention merely to the transmission of telegrams.

THE REAL THING.

Internal strife must stop and unification should be restored as soon as possible now that both our country and people have already been impoverished, says the "Sinwanpao." But what our people wish for is the real thing and not unity in name only. The paper can condone the effort of the Government in treating with a section of the South first with the object of ultimately reaching an understanding cannot but express its utmost wonder upon hearing of the way in which the Government is going to form the Reorganization Commission. If the members of this Commission are to be composed of the persons reported, it can only call this an attempt at unification by bribery. The personnel of the Commission will include officials, radicals and members of Anfu Club, Chen Hseuh Hui, the Chiao-tung, Taolun, and Yenchiu cliques, as well as monarchists and traitors. The most disheartening part of the reported programme for the Commission to follow is the "perversion of public opinion" (? press opinion) by purchase. "Could bribes effectively silence criticism? Did not Emperor Hung Hsien (Yuan Shih-kai) and the Anfuites go to extreme lengths in their efforts to pervert and misrepresent the 'popular wishes' and fail? Public opinion will always assert itself, and it can never be suppressed, much less bought.

INTERNAL CONFLICT AND EXTERNAL DANGERS.

It was expected that the scramble for power among militarists would be fiercer after the collapse of the Anfuities. This is unfortunately the case, says the "Sinwanpao," for we hear of plots to restore the Manchu rule and to adopt a pro-Japanese policy; of preparations for war being made by Tsao Kun and Chang Tso-lin, and of the conversion of the Changkiang regions into a field for militarists' exploitation. Although the time may not yet have come for us to apprehend any immediate danger, signs are not wanting that, unless we apply palliative measures, the storm will surely break out sooner or later in our midst. Those who have their ambition baulked will make another plunge after better fortune, while those whose ambition has been fully gratified will never remain content where they are. Thus the suffering of our nation and people is perpetuated. Chang Tso-lin is criticized as being the greatest offender in this game, as he has even neglected to attend to the Urga and Hungchun affairs, during to his desire to be on good terms with Japan. He is said to be far worse than Tuan Chi-jui.

NEW CONSORTIUM AND CHINESE CAPITAL.

Is the New Banking Consortium truly a business venture pure and simple and without the slightest taint of anything of a political nature, queries the "Shunpao"? If so, in the interest of Chinese business, there is no reason why Chinese people should not welcome foreign capital. But as a business proposition, Chinese merchants should be allowed the right to participate in all the dealings of the Consortium. The members of the Consortium have only declared that they are quite willing to welcome Chinese cooperation, but to what extent and how, they have said nothing. If admitting Chinese capital does not entail recognition of Chinese capitalists as full members, cooperation will become a mockery.

The "Shunpao" then goes on to indicate what the Consortium should do if it be sincere in its desire to help China:—(1) Chinese capitalists to be admitted as full members, (i.e. enjoying the same privileges as other members.) (2) Their opinion to be respected before advancing loans to China of a political nature. (3) If it be inconvenient for foreigners to act in the matter of any security, let the Chinese capitalists do it. The papers consider that not only can cooperation be thus carried into effect with convenience, but any suspicion entertained by Chinese regarding politics may thus be dissipated, as they will thereby be enabled to exercise supervision over their Government.

PIRACY PREVALENT.

Cases of piracy have recently been reported one after another in rapid succession, and the victims have mostly been cargo boats, remarks the "Sinwanpao." The

boatmen have become so terrorized that they would gladly suspend their business if their voice alone were to decide the question. However, if the authorities do not take quick action to capture and punish these depredators, all the waterways in our own and adjacent provinces will soon become unsafe for traffic. If merchants refuse to trust their goods to cargo boats, the whole market will be affected. Of all the goods carried by these boats, rice is of special importance, as it forms the staple food of our people. The paper reviews the position of the Chinese merchants with genuine sympathy. It enumerates the calamities they have suffered, either from military operations by Heaven's will (flood and drought), through competition of foreign goods, or as a result of official oppression and burdensome taxes; and now they are being robbed and maltreated by pirates.

CHANG HSUN AND HSU SHU-TSENG.

Rumours of monarchical restoration and the propaganda in favour of a pro-Japanese policy sound hackneyed to the ears of our people, in the opinion of the "Sinuan-pao." Therefore, we have discredited at the outset the reports about the reinstatement of the monarchist leader and the pardon of the Anfu delinquents. How is it that the report that Chang Tso-lin advocates the appointment of Chang Hsun as Inspector-General of the three Yangtze province still survives to-day; and that there should have come another report yesterday (Nov. 15) to the effect that Chang has requested that a special pardon be granted Hsu Shu-tseng and that Hsu be assigned to Fengtien for service?

Chang Hsun is an opponent to the Republic. Chang Tso-lin is insulting public opinion to a dangerous extent when he demands his reinstatement as an official of the Republic. But what is his idea in thus recklessly acting against all common decency and to the outrage of our people by recommending Hsu Shu-tseng, who was a leader of the Anfuites and who must be regarded by Chang himself as his political opponent for a special pardon? Has our Republic come to such a pass that the manner of treating its offenders rests entirely with the likes and dislikes of a single militarist?

If Chang Hsun were to be appointed Inspector-General of the Yangtze provinces, the whole of the three provinces, Kiangsu, Anhui and Kiangsi, would indirectly fall within the influence of the Fengtien faction. If Little Hsu should be sent to Fengtien for service, then the danger from the joint of Chang Tso-lin and Hsu Shu-tseng against the Central Government, possibly with certain foreign support, would be beyond imagination. Let us wait and see.

PEKING, Nov. 16.—The notes of the Bank of China and the Bank of Communications which were redeemed in October will be burned at the Temple of Agriculture shortly, under the supervision of the Domestic Bonds Bureau.—Reuter.

OUTPORTS

THE NEW RULERS OF CANTON

What Will They Do?

GREAT CHANCE FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Canton, Nov. 6.

After the exciting times of the last few weeks, we are all rejoicing in the comparative calm that now prevails in Canton. Business is beginning slowly to revive and every one is relieved that the Kuangsi party have been got rid of with so little actual damage to Canton. After obstinately holding out for several weeks the late Tuchun Mu had to make a hurried retreat last week.

Where he is no one seems to be sure. We heard that he escaped disguised on a Japanese boat to Shanghai, but the latest rumour is that he is in Shiuchow, on the North River, directing the Kuangsi troops and hoping still to make a stand against the Kuangtung Army. Chen Chiung-ming has arrived and has been installed as Civil Governor and commander-in-Chief of all the forces in the province. A determined attack has been made on the Kuangsi troops stationed in Shiuheng on the North River and it is said that an army will be sent to attack Wuchow and attempt finally to defeat the forces of Lu Yung-ting.

THE NEED OF REFORM.

What is of more interest to some of us, however, is the question as to how the leaders of the Kuangtung party now that they have regained direction of affairs in the province will conduct themselves. They have denounced and with good reason the barefaced robbery and corruption of the Kuangsi leaders. Will they do better themselves? Many of the men now coming into control of things, if not avowed Christians, have had plenty of opportunity to learn of the principles of righteousness, and now they have the chance to put them into practice. If they are true to what they profess we may look for better days. It is said that Chen Chiung-ming has definitely pledged himself to close all the gambling dens of the province. This he promised in a letter to the Committee of the Christian Anti-Gambling Association when they were conducting their campaign last spring. We shall see if he can keep his word. The Association mean to try and keep him up to it. Then he will have no easy task to disperse all the motley crowd that have enrolled themselves under the banner of the Kuangtung army. These rabble are being kept away from Canton, but they will be a menace to the country-side if they are not dealt with. After

that, if he can clear the waterways of pirates, Canton and the country round will enjoy what it has not had for years—tranquillity.

KUANGSI TROOPS' OUTRAGES.

Pitiful stories of robbery, outrage and murder are coming now that the districts are being freed from the grip of the Kuangsi troops. They have not left much behind them in the regions they have passed through. There have been several sharp encounters in the city between these men and the Kuangtung troops. When summoned to surrender their arms they have preferred to fight rather than give up their weapons. One has not much sympathy with them, but one could not help feeling some pity for the Yunnanese troops who put up a bold fight for some time. They came under the leadership of Lai Kan-yuen, a man who tried to get what there was to be got out of both sides and finally threw in his lot with the Kuangsi party. At the first sign of defeat, this coward slipped off to Shanghai, and left his men in the lurch. Miles away from their native province and deserted by their leader no wonder they feared what might be the consequences if they surrendered. As it is most of them have been enrolled under the Kuangtung banner after capitulation.

THE UNWANTED PARLIAMENT.

Our English daily keeps up its brave attempt to enlist the attention of the general public in the affairs of Canton, but I am afraid that often it is a voice crying in the wilderness and that as usual the people will become again absorbed in their shops and leave the business of government to those who have axes to grind. The so-called Provincial Assembly has cut a poor figure, which is all that was expected of a lot of men who paid most of them for their posts and did not reckon to face any dangers. Soon, I suppose that we shall have Sun Yat-sen, Wu Ting-fang and others back in Canton. These will be welcome, but if only the ship that will carry the members of the old Parliament on their return journey would meet with some accident there would be little mourning as these men have never done any good and are not likely to do any, it is not in them.

RECENTLY, after the early train from Peking had left Tientsin Central, two Chinese soldiers who were passengers suddenly discovered that it would have been more convenient to have alighted at that station than proceed to Tientsin East. Accordingly they went up to the front of the train, clambered on to the engine, and compelled the driver to stop. They then ordered him to take the train back to Tientsin Central. Only when it was explained that there would be ample time for them to catch the Pukow train at Tientsin East did these truculent soldiers permit the train to continue its journey.

NOTES FROM SZECHUAN

The Yunnan Reverses

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chêngtu, Oct. 15.

Yesterday confirmation of the complete defeat of the Yunnanese arrived through authoritative sources. They have been driven out of both Luchow and Suifu with severe losses inflicted on them by Yang Tze-wei, the general of the Szechuan 9th Division, and Liu Hsiang, the general of the 2nd Division. A most sanguinary battle was fought about Suifu for seven days and nights. The Yunnanese commander-in-chief in this area, Chao Yu-hsin, was captured and later court martialled and shot. The Yunnanese have retired to Yunling on the border. Reports are circulated that Tang Chi-yao is withdrawing troops from Kuangtung to counterattack and recover lost ground. The Szechuanese are flushed with victory, and, if they can keep united, the Yunnanese will stand little chance of making much headway in Szechuan now.

The Governor, Hsiung Keh-wu, is at Tungchuan with General Tan of the 1st Division. General Liu Chen-heo is at Mienchow with the title of commander-in-chief. General Liu Yu-chiu is in charge of the capital, Chêngtu. All the troops are well fed and clothed, paid up to date, and are determined to keep the Yunnanese out.

New General for Szechuan

From a Correspondent.

Chêngtu, Oct. 18.

General Liu Yu-chiu, the commander of the third Chuin (Army) is still in Chêngtu, taking the title of Chief Warden of the city. Several days ago he invited the prominent men of Chêngtu to a feast, and he declared his idea of going to the front to direct his soldiers in fighting, and he requested them to telegraph to General Liu Tsen-hou and Governor Hsiung Keh-wu to return quickly to the capital, in order to enable him to go to the front. Hearing this declaration, all the men invited, agreed to send a joint telegram to ask Liu and Hsiung to return to Chêngtu.

It has long been stated that General Liu Tsen-hou and Governor Hsiung Keh-wu would meet at Hueluchi, which is between Mienchow and Tungchuan, but the date of meeting was postponed. From a reliable source I have now heard that Liu and Hsiung have already met and talked things over. Both of them will return to Chêngtu before long.

Soldiers in Flight

From Our Own Correspondent.

Fochow, Sze., Oct. 18.

Another change took place in the political situation here yesterday. The Kueichow soldiers who have been stationed here for the past

month or so took the road to Lanchuan on their way to Kueichow. The people gave them a present before they left so that there was no looting. They had just nicely got away when the defeated soldiers from Chungking arrived here. The city is full of soldiers. They say that over 10,000 came into the city yesterday and have billeted themselves everywhere. I was down on one street yesterday and as far as I could see there were soldiers and they were marching them into the compounds along the street, 20 or more in every compound with fixed bayonets. You may imagine that there was not much resistance. They met their Waterloo when they tried to billet 40 or 50 on the Mission Middle School. These soldiers are the fifth and sixth Szechuan armies, under the command of Lu Tsao and Shih Tsing-lang and also some who are under the command of Liu Shih-ti. They have been fighting with the Yunkuei forces against Hsiung Keh-wu and Liu Tseng-heo.

If Armies Could Be Cut Down

From Our Own Correspondent.

Mienchow, Sze., Oct. 26.

Things have been very quiet here for some weeks and we are hoping to see our travellers, who have been delayed for so long, turn up at any time. You will probably have heard from other sources (if it is true) that the Yunnanese are driven out of Chungking and—it is said here—are like to be driven out of the province. All these things make one wonder.

The following thoughts were suggested by a leading article of yours (September 23) in which you review Mr. Lamont's Preliminary Report on the New Consortium for China. If I remember rightly you were quoting Mr. Lamont's remarks anent the necessity for cutting down military expense. A force of 10,000 men would be sufficient to keep Szechuan in order, provided the troops were really efficient and had nothing to do but look after home affairs. A disbanding of all soldiers in every province except such as are needed for the home provinces would make this possible. At present (I confine my remarks to West China) inter-provincial strife is the chief cause of fighting, and brigandage tends to be rampant because the robbers regard the soldiers as too busy to attend to them. If Szechuan's ancient feud with Yunnan and Kueichow could be killed, the soldiers would have nothing to do but mind their own business, part of which certainly, while brigandage is so rife, would be to fight brigands.

Suppose Szechuan had 10,000 men only, where should they be placed? The thickly populated eastern half of the province could employ 6,000 men which force could divide into three operating from Chêngtu, Chungking, and Hsutingfu respectively. The remaining 4,000 would not have hard

work in the sparsely populated west. If Szechuan had only 10,000 men to provide for and was prepared to do it properly by not stinting the necessary funds, she could have the pick of the province from a military point of view for her army.

Buying off the Defeated

Fowchow, Sze., Oct. 28.

This place has been under considerable strain during the past 10 days on account of having the defeated fifth and sixth divisions quartered here. They demanded \$200,000 with the threat that they would loot and burn the place if they did not get it. On the 23rd the city paid over about \$50,000 and they say that each soldier got \$5.

That night they began to move out of the city over the pontoon bridge to the suburb over the river, and some going on to Peshui and Yuyangchow. On the morning of the 24th, all of the Kueichow troops who were mixed up with them started up the Lanchuan Road for home. We thought that probably that day we would see the last of these fellows as the victorious 2nd division were only 30 li away on Saturday night, but still Lü Ch'ao held on at the yamen demanding more money.

On Tuesday morning, however, he marched out with his troops and went up over the hill toward Peshui. We thought that the coast was clear but that night Shih Tsing-yang sent back some troops from across the river into the city and the tension was worse than ever as they said he had not got all the money which he wanted. We could not understand why the other army did not come on and rout them out. Their representatives were conferring every day with Lü Tiao but they did not seem to get anywhere. Every one feared that they would loot before they got away.

FAREWELL DESTRUCTION.

On the evening of the 27th, however, there was a movement of troops across the river and about 10 o'clock we noticed them coming down the mountain from Peshui and joining up with the fellows across the river and then wending their way down river. At 12 o'clock they cut the pontoon bridge at both ends and let the boats float down river, several of which were wrecked. They set on fire a large compound on the other side of the little river belonging to the head of the local militia, who would not pay them the money which they demanded. This morning the 2nd division took possession of the place in force. The people are much easier in mind to-day although they expect that in a few days they will have to face another levy for these troops.

About 1,000 disbanded troops of the army of Lung Chi-kuang arrived in Shanghai on Sunday, states the Chinese press. They will be sent to their homes as soon as possible.

KUEICHOW A PREY TO SOLDIERING

No-one's Property Safe

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kueiyang, Kuei., Oct. 23.

The commandeering of the pack animals is being pushed with ruthless severity, as it is reported that General Wang Tien-lun evacuated Chungking on the 15th instant. The price of rice is rising because the supply is not sufficient to meet the demand. Horses taking rice to the capital are stopped *en route* and unloaded, then the animals are sent to the nearest station where they are kept until an opportunity presents itself for forwarding them to Kueiyang. We also hear that the troops in the eastern part of the province continue to demand horses and men from the officials.

A succession of bright sunny days has given the farmers an opportunity for gathering in the rest of the grain. Near the villages all the available space is being utilized to sun the grain prior to storing it in the granaries.

THE OPIUM CROP.

The farmers are now beginning to prepare the land for opium cultivation and many of the labourers are devoting their energies to necessary ploughing etc. It is lamentable that the Kueichow Government will not take any action towards preventing it, in fact many officials and members of the Provincial Assembly advocate the growing of the poppy in order that they may make a good thing out of it.

Many officials holding office in this province seem bent on making money by fair means or foul, and their doings provide the local dailies with abundant copy. It is surprising how long suffering the people are and how they pay the fines inflicted on them unjustly by those who should have their welfare at heart.

DREAD OF KUANGSI TROOPS.

It is reported in some circles that the Governor of Kuangsi has sent a wire to General Liu Hsien-shih asking him to join the former in an effort to subdue Yunnan. Many people in the southern part of the province are alarmed for there are a number of Kuangsi troops stationed near the Kueichow border. They say that whether our Governor consents or refuses, it will be bad for the people in Kueichow. If he consents, then the Yunnan troops returning to Yunnan from Szechuan will march on Kueiyang, while if he refuses the Kuangsi troops are likely to enter Kueichow and march through to fight the Yunnanese wherever they meet them.

CHOLERA ABATING.

The cholera is abating and seems to be attacking people with less severity than before. Reports from the villages state that there

are fewer victims this month than last.

Telegraphs and postal communication with Szechuan are more or less interrupted these days, and there is a scarcity of news concerning the fighting in consequence.

THE CAPTURE OF PAKHOI

Timorous Mr. Wong

WHY THE CITY WAS GIVEN OVER TO LOOT

From Our Own Correspondent.

Pakhoi, Nov. 4.

The latest incident reported from this district mentioned the fact that Wong Ming-tong and his bandits were in occupation of the port, and that other of these troops were attacking Liemchow. Wong Chi-un and other leaders were also represented in this attack. These men invested the city from Sunday, October 24, until the 26th, when reinforcements enabled Luk Lan-tsing to rout the enemy. The fight was severe during this time, but no reliable information as to the number of casualties is to hand.

Luk Lan-tsing's next move was to drive Wong Ming-tong out of Pakhoi. These troops were chiefly from Kuangsi, and fighting began three miles outside of the town on the afternoon of October 20. The men were better armed and trained than Wong's crowd, and, after a few hours fighting, were in possession of the town. At the first sound of firing Wong Ming-tong left the hotel he had made his headquarters, and took a four-bearer chair to the shore—two minutes distant—and boarded a junk. To conclude his affairs for the time: he landed lower down the coast, and made his way overland to his old headquarters some 33 miles from Pakhoi. When more than half way there he met with another body of Luk's men, and as Wong was practically without ammunition the men with him suffered severely. It is stated that Wong himself was wounded.

A REWARD FOR BRAVERY.

To return to the victorious troops. They soon showed that they had not come with any altruistic motives for the whole of the night of October 30, was spent in looting the town from top to bottom. The merchants expected this from Wong's men, but not from the new troops! The explanation given is that the men would not have fought if they had been forbidden to loot, and that until the actual arrival of the General in charge they were free to do as they liked. It was a scene of great desolation that met the eye on going through the city next morning. Solid doors had been hacked open, and band after

band had looted until there was practically nothing left in the shops. What could not be taken away was smashed. A curious development of this looting is that some 200 loads of stuff have been detained at the General's headquarters and that he has offered it to the Chamber of Commerce—who have so far refused to take delivery of it. Another bandit leader, named Lo, was making away with three junk loads, when he was intercepted by Li Ku-man, until recently the naval officer in charge of the "sea." What Li will do with his capture remains to be seen.

FOREIGNERS' EXCITING TIME.

Two men belonging to the Asiatic Petroleum Co., and a Customs Tidewater had an unpleasant experience. They had been to tea with a friend—whose house was in the thick of some of the hottest firing. Thinking the fighting was over they started homewards, when they were fired on by a company of men who had apparently been lying in wait for stragglers, and in the dusk could not distinguish between foreign and Chinese. In spite of the three men holding up their hands the firing continued, and they were forced to lie flat on the ground. As soon as the soldiers came up to them the situation explained itself, and profuse apologies were made. This occurred on the grounds of the British Consulate, and the house from which the men came out was flying the Union Jack.

Although Wong Ming-tong and his companions are referred to as "bandits"—that term describing their favourite occupation—there is no doubt that the real inwardness of the present struggle is the determination of Kuangsi, though driven out of power in Canton, to secure an outlet to the sea for that province.

This makes it the more certain that there will be more serious fighting in the near future. The Kuangtung party, represented for the present by Wong Ming-tong & Co. will not be content with the present status. They have been defeated chiefly owing to lack of guns and ammunition, and when this lack has been remedied the struggle will doubtless be resumed.

NATIONS in sympathy with China's famine-stricken people of the North have raised relief funds and Japan has not been behind in thus expressing her sympathy. Recently, the Sino-Japanese Business Society of Tokio (which consists of prominent Japanese business men) started a fund throughout Japan on a large scale in co-operation with the leading newspapers, and subscriptions from all sources are said to be mounting up considerably. In this connexion, one learns that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has lately subscribed the sum of \$25,000, this amount figuring also in the first subscriptions of other big Japanese firms.

ANHUI NOTES

Was It a Bolshevik ?

PROFIT OUT OF FAMINE

From Our Own Correspondent.

Anking, Oct. 28.

Has Anking had its first touch of Bolshevism? A Russian gentleman came marching in at the North Gate recently and visited the various mission compounds. He was tired and hungry. He had come all the way from Vladivostok and was on his way to Shanghai. What his name was the writer forgets if he ever knew. It was neither Lenin nor Trotsky. Why should he be taking such a long weary road to Shanghai? He was not of "the brain storm surrounded by whiskers" kind that is generally supposed to be Bolshy; he knew little or no English, practically no Chinese, some French and a little Latin. As to Russian, we dunno. Who was he? He was evidently travelling without any passport, yet he had no difficulty in getting along. He had enough money here to make his journey to Shanghai easier.

FEASTING AND FAMINE.

The Civil Governor's mother had a "big" birthday recently, and there were three days' celebrations therefore. It was a high old time and there was a great percentage of Anhui officialdom in Anking just then. Much money was spent in theatricals etc., and there was some talk of a famine somewhere up north. A Chinese remarked that the money spent to fill the full stomachs of the participants would have served to fill many empty ones up north.

So far as we have seen, there is little activity on behalf of the famine area. A society called the United Benevolent Society has had collection boxes placed at different parts of the city. They are taken in at nights. The contributions have not been remarkably heavy so far we understand. The collection box is not an appealing thing. It would be good to see some of the influential men of Anking getting up and making famine help their life's work for a year or so. There is plenty of money for the work of amelioration, but no one has time to take the thing in hand. Of course the main reason may be that the famine is far away, and Anking is not threatened.

OUR BEAUTIFUL FIREBRIGADE.

Some time ago we reported some changes in the police leadership. Chief Liu Tao-chang returned to his old billet for a short time and resigned. He had regained his lost face. Now Mr. Cheng is installed as permanent (?) Chief. We have a Volunteer Fire Brigade here and they were out for a route march recently. They looked splendid in their different colours. There was quite a crowd of them and each one has a bright shiny brass helmet, so there is no more fear of fire. The helmets will save us. Some folks think an engine and some means of getting water would

not be a bad idea, but that is sheer grousing. Since the helmets have come, let us be content to enjoy them.

The country is dry, and the farmers are longing for a good wet spell to help their wheat and oil crops.

HANGCHOW NOTES

A Town Council

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hangchow, Nov. 13.

We are moving in our civic life. A representative gathering of merchants met, yesterday, to discuss the initiation of a Town Council, and choice of a Mayor to carry out, on Western lines, the precepts of the tentative local government system that has now for a year been growing from an experiment to an organized system.

The question of road-making took up a good deal of time and plans were discussed for carrying out an extensive scheme. These include a motor-road through the lake valley to Zakhou and the Hangchow College.

The private charitable industrial school, opened five years ago by a lady in memory of her husband, has grown beyond her present means, so it is requested of the Provincial Assembly to vote a permanent grant. The overseas guests, met in discussion of the Shanmenwan development, are proving an expensive luxury. An additional thousand to the granted \$5,000 is requested from the Treasury through the Governor.

The Normal School preparations for the anniversary of their self-government on the 16th and 17th promise great things. Displays of all kinds, gymnastic and scholastic, make an elaborate programme. The public are invited to show their sympathy by a large attendance.

On the roof-garden of the Y.M.C.A. throughout to-day an exhibition of drawings and paintings in Western style takes place. The Shanghai Art School is responsible for arrangements. The sales at the large, newly-opened "wrist-watch shop" on the Great Street are reported as extraordinary. The usual blaze of illumination, and "free refreshment" to purchasers attracts immense crowds.

The Commercial School, after severe reprimand from the Educational Commissioner, who dismissed two students, have returned to work after a two-weeks' strike. A visit of investigation of methods observed in Hangchow Agricultural College has just terminated on the part of the sister institution in Shanghai.

Hangchow, Nov. 17.

The Assembly commenced yesterday with 91 members present. The president read several telegrams the gist of which was the famine, civil affairs, and the budget.

The Wulin Ironworkers asked for a loan and the cotton-growing bureau asked for payment of a

INHUMANITY BRED OF FEAR

Hospital Now to be Built

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kueiyang, Oct. 26.

The gentry and business men at the city of Tuhshan are talking of raising the funds necessary for building and equipping a hospital. During the cholera epidemic some visitors from other parts were driven out of the inns when there were indications that they had taken the cholera. As some were put out in the pouring rain without proper covering it undoubtedly hastened the end by depriving the patients of any hope or possibility of recovery. It has been said repeatedly that if there had been a proper place at Tuhshan where the patients could have gone for treatment in some instances they would have recovered. At present the official is trying to extort \$1,600 unjustly from a prominent business man, and others are urging him to pay the money providing that the whole of the amount goes towards a fund for the erection and equipment of a hospital. A leading military official has promised \$1,000 and other promises have been made for sums like \$500, etc. It has been said that the committee intend asking the missionaries to take the oversight of building and conducting the hospital.

The people along the southern part of the province are in a bad way, for reports state that the *tufei* are gradually becoming bolder and more daring. In spite of the danger of the *tufei*, almost all the soldiers in the affected parts have been suddenly called to Kueiyang. It seems as if the authorities are expecting trouble from the soldiers returning from Szechuan, so they are seeking to have some tried men at hand to help out in the case of emergency. All the civil officials have received orders that each *hsien* district is to provide 100 men locally, and also see that they are armed with firearms. Many officials are at their wits end to know where to find the men, to say nothing of the firearms.

THE death is reported of Mrs. George Watt at Yokohama on November 8. Mrs. Watt, who was 75 years of age, was a native of England and went to Japan in the early eighties.

deficit on last year's working account.

The money available to send to the famine district from schools' sports held a fortnight ago is \$1,246.

In connexion with the Y.M.C.A. there are 1,300 students enrolled in Bible study classes and they are having a rejoicing social meeting on the 23rd.

In connexion with the "Charity Coffin" guild Mr. Li Zwen has collected over \$3,000 to make cotton wadded garments to distribute among the city poor as soon as the weather becomes cold.

WUCHANG NOTES

The Overworked Tuchun

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wuchang, Oct. 28.

Tuchun Wang has been asking to be relieved temporarily of his post, the reasons he gives being that his health is unable to stand the strain of his official duties. Possibly another cause is that he may feel he has lost some face over the appointment of the new Civil Governor in place of Governor Ho, who was dismissed from his post owing to his being a member of the Anfu Party. General Wang had nominated as Ho's successor a friend of his own, but Peking, mainly at the instigation of Wu Pei-fu, has given the position to a friend of the latter General, whose nominee happens to be the man the Wuchang Chambers of Commerce also wished to be chosen.

For some years attempts have been made to establish a football league in this centre and at last a workable scheme appears to have been evolved. Up to date the clubs that have joined are Hankow Race Club, United Services, Customs, Navy and Wesley College, though it is hoped that other teams especially from mission colleges, will enter the competition. Such a league will doubtless give great stimulus to the game in these parts and will make the task of secretaries of arranging weekly matches very much easier.

The Wuchang Union Normal School, which for the past 12 years has been carried on by the American Church and English Wesleyan Missions, is to receive a new accession of strength by the participation of the American Presbyterian Mission in the work of training teachers. Rev. A. A. Bullock is expected to take up residence as one of the staff and as the representative of the Presbyterians.

Yesterday evening owing to the clear weather we had a fine view of the eclipse of the moon, though the aesthetic enjoyment of the sight was somewhat marred by the continuous beating of drums and gongs that was going on all around, the natives being very energetic in their efforts to prevent the destruction of our satellite by the monster which is supposed at these times to be attempting to devour it.

Bolshevism and the Want of Schools

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wuchang, Nov. 11.

On Thursday, November 4, Wuchang had a visit from Professor Dewey, who lectured to the students of the Government Higher Normal School on the influence of education. In the course of his address he spoke of the results of the spread of education in the various countries of the world and pointed out that the fall of Russia was largely

attributable to the lack of opportunities of the lower classes of the people to obtain even the rudiments of learning. The speaker went on to explain the needs for sound general education to be within the reach of every one in China and indicated the importance of such an opportunity not being restricted to those who were fortunate enough to live in the large towns, but that those in the villages should have equal chances of a primary schooling.

STUDENTS' PLAY FOR THE FAMINE.

On Saturday evening last a group of students of Boone University, Wuchang, assisted by some of the staff gave a play entitled "The American Hustler" at the Hsin-min Theatre, Hankow, in aid of the famine sufferers. There was a large audience and the performers gave an excellent account of themselves. The fund will benefit to the extent of some hundreds of dollars. The Boone boys have also made a collection among themselves in aid of this deserving object and have secured quite a large sum.

CHINESE WEATHER PROPHETS.

The hot spell is now over and we are being treated to bitterly cold winds and some rain. Curiously enough the weather broke on the day indicated in the Chinese calendar as the "beginning of winter." Yesterday the storm was particularly violent and cross-river traffic was largely held up, no steam ferry launches being able to cross at all. I hear that three large sailing ferry boats were wrecked and a good many lives lost.

ANOTHER COTTON MILL.

The Hankow Cotton Spinning Co. have now almost completed the erection of their third mill on the Yangtze bank on the Wuchang side of the river. The first mill is now running with 23,000 spindles, while another 21,000 are to be added to complete the equipment of that factory alone.

According to latest official returns the number of foreign tourists of various nationalities who visited Japan during the first half of the current year was 15,252 men and women, the figure being 90 less than the same period of last year. The Chinese take the largest percentage of the number with 6,142 followed by the Americans with 3,100, the British with 2,100 and the Russians with 2,037.

TOKIO, Nov. 12.—Major Okumura, of the War Office, emphatically denies the Peking report that Japanese had joined in the attack on Urga as being "transparent propaganda." He states that there is not a Japanese soldier in that region except one officer, acting as reporter to the War Office. Major Okumura admits that there may be a large number of Japanese "roaming about the region," but these are "mere wandering bands of vagrants with no claim to be Japanese."—Reuter.

CHINESE BOYS' NEED OF SCHOOLING

An Interesting Speech Day

By Our Wuchang Correspondent.

On Saturday, November 6, the Wuchang Union Normal School held its annual sports and prize distribution. In the morning the first part of the sports programme was carried out on the school's athletic grounds, where events were arranged not only for the teachers in training but also for the boys in the practising schools. In the afternoon a good company of Chinese and foreigners gathered in the school hall for the prize-giving ceremony. The chair was taken by Rev. A. J. McFarlane, of the London Mission, Hanyang, and the report of the year's work was given by the Rev. C. D. Little, the acting principal.

A GROWING INSTITUTION.

Mr. Little stated that last year the number of students in residence was 33, this year there were 44 on the roll, and next year it was expected the numbers would reach nearly 70. The missions in the Union were the American Church, and the English Wesleyan. The American Presbyterians had already decided to share in the work of the school and had appointed a representative on the staff, and it was hoped the London Mission would soon become one of the partners in the concern.

Bishop Roots next addressed the assembly on the subject of normal training, pointing out the fact that a large proportion of Chinese boys, even under the best conditions, could not hope to receive an education above that of the Primary School and that, therefore, it was highly necessary to provide efficient methods of instruction in this grade of educational institution. He went on to give some account of the early history of the normal school and of the difficulties under which it had laboured for the first few years after its opening as a branch of Wesley College.

BOY SCOUTS AND MANUAL WORK.

The Bishop then distributed the prizes to the various winners and was followed by Mr. C. W. Knott, of Griffith John College, Hankow, who hopes to join the staff of the Normal School. Mr. Knott dealt with the subject of manual training and spoke of the influence of the Boy Scout movement in breaking down the old prejudice against students turning their hands to any kind of manual labour.

At the conclusion of the function tea was served to the guests and the remainder of the sports programme was run off, thus bringing to a close a very successful and enjoyable day.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—Mr. Frank D. Byington, of Maryland, has been appointed Commissioner of Pensions.—Reuter.

SOUTH MANCHURIA RLY.

A Report of Many Activities!

We have received from the general secretary of the South Manchuria Railway copies of the business report of the Company for the years 1918-20, and of the South Manchuria Railway Guide Book.

The former contains a very interesting résumé of the history of the development of the South Manchuria Railway from the time of its inception in 1906 until March of this year, with interesting details as to the financial position of the Company, and the industries and enterprises in which it is engaged, these comprising railways, shipping, the harbour at Tairen, coal mines, electricity and gas works, hotels, management of the railway area, the building and management of railway towns, the Anzan Steelworks, hospitals, experimental laboratories, etc.

NEW LINES TAKEN OVER.

The railways acquired from the Government on April 1, 1907, are the Tairen-Changchun Line, the Mukden-Antung Line, and the Port Arthur, Liushutun, Yingchow, Yentai and Fushun branch lines, and the increase in passenger and goods traffic on these lines is seen from the fact that in 1907 1,512,231 passengers and 1,486,343 tons of goods were transported, while in 1919 the totals reached 9,274,114 passengers and 10,096,672 tons of goods. As to financial statistics, the net profit in 1919 was Yen 24,374,964 as compared with Yen 2,016,585 in 1907, the receipts Yen 153,133,387 as compared with Yen 12,543,116, and the expenditure Yen 128,758,423 as compared with Yen 10,526,531 in 1907.

The Guide Book is a very useful book of reference for travellers in South Manchuria. Opening with a brief outline of the modern history of the province, it gives brief descriptions of many places of interest along the railway and its branches, and contains excellent pictures of places of historic and scenic interest, with directions how to reach them.

Opium Dens Closed by Japan

Tokio, Nov. 16.

It is reported that the Japanese Government has decided to close all the opium dens in Kuantung and Tsingtao.—Reuter.

Japan's Birthrate Down

Tokio, Nov. 16.

The census shows that the mortality rate in Japan is gaining on the birth rate owing to the frequency of illegitimate relations and the increasing difficulty of living conditions. Last year there were 1,823,481 births—a decrease of 18,000—and 1,513,687 deaths—an increase of 298,250.—Reuter.

THE TONGSHAN DISASTER

Accusations by Peking

Tientsin, Nov. 17.

According to the "Peking & Tientsin Times," the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce has twice addressed letters to the Kailan Mining Administration with reference to the disaster which occurred on October 14. In these the Ministry criticized the Administration's engineering methods, condemned their hospital, urged that \$1,000 should be paid to the relatives of those who were killed, and alleged that the staff "treat human lives as lightly as straw."

Mr. P. C. Young, the Acting General Manager, in a lengthy reply, published in the "P. & T. Times," refutes the charges which, as he points out, have been made without awaiting the Commission's report. He shows that many of the charges are based on ill-informed statements. Mr. Young says he has reason to believe that the compensation is the highest paid by any mines in China, and the miners are excellently looked after, the houses, baths and amusements being most up-to-date. Mr. Young adds that he has welcomed the appointment of the Commission, and is placing all available information at its disposal.—Reuter.

AMERICAN MINISTER
AT HANGCHOW

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hangchow, Nov. 16.

The American Minister and party arrived here on Sunday afternoon on unofficial business, and are being entertained by the missionaries. On Monday Mr. Crane called on the Military and Civil Governors, and he and his party lunched with the Tuchun. In the afternoon they visited the famous Lin Yin temples and in the evening they went to the theatre.

The Provincial Assembly begins the work of the session this afternoon. Yesterday they met at 2 o'clock, and as there was a quorum they were able to elect the necessary officers.

Representatives have arrived from Manchuria and Chihli and obtained official sanction to raising funds for the famine in the north through theatricals, and have gone to Shanghai to engage a few famous actors and actresses.

Yesterday there was a fire at the Da Wang Miao in the Wu-z suburb, but not much damage was done.

Found in an iron pot in 1917, a note of the Mitsui Bank drawn in 1880 for Y.160,000 and purchased by Mr. Yasutaro Murakami, a medicine manufacturer of Dojima, Osaka, has been held good by the Yokohama District Court and the bank directed to pay Mr. Murakami the face value with accrued interest.

CHEFOO NOTES

The First Winter Storm

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chefoo, Nov. 5.

The Chefoo "Daily News," our only local newspaper published in English, has now a new editor. Mrs. Franck W. Smith, who for the past 12 months has given her services gratuitously as editor, has relinquished the position, and Mr. W. Lytle has taken on the editorial duties. From the original articles which have appeared from his pen it would seem as though our local "daily" at last possesses an official head who can make his presence in the port felt by the power of the pen.

Until yesterday we had been enjoying most remarkable weather. A succession of strong south winds, a feature of Chefoo's spring, kept the temperature unusually high for the time of the year, and it was difficult to realize that we were into the month of November. The early days of September were far colder than the latter end of October. Suddenly, however, there came one of those lightning changes for which Chefoo is noted. A northerly blow commenced about 10 o'clock on Wednesday night, and by the early hours of the next morning there were heavy seas prevailing. All work afloat had to be abandoned, ships sought refuge under the Bluff, while the air was decidedly wintry. The mercury went down with a rush and Chefoo felt that winter was upon it. In the morning there was a little snow but nothing worth mentioning. The breakers did considerable damage to the bunding and parts of this have been washed away. The portions destroyed in the heavy gale of a few years ago and repaired in a special way, withstood the ravages of yesterday's storm, but the older parts suffered considerably. While the gale lasted it was extremely violent. This morning it is quite calm again.

ARMISTICE CELEBRATIONS.

Chefoo does not intend to let Armistice Day pass unnoticed. There is to be a service at St. Andrew's Church in the morning conducted by the chaplain of the port. The club members are holding a tiffin at midday and in the evening there is to be a dance. A general holiday will be observed and no business will be transacted on that day. The weekly football matches between the Settlement and the School are now taking place and interesting encounters are being witnessed. Thus far the Settlement eleven has not proved up to the standard of last season, but as they have been unable to put their strongest side into the field it is impossible to gauge accurately what the strength of the side would be which would do duty against Weihaiwei, if the latter place sends a team here to try conclusions with the local eleven. If is Weihaiwei's turn to visit Chefoo, as our representatives made the journey down there last April.

THE GREAT FAMINE IN NORTH CHINA

Italian Consent to Surtaxes

Peking, Nov. 12.

It is reported that Italy has given a qualified approval to the surtaxes, stipulating the condition that China shall agree to honour Austrian bonds in the possession of Italians. In view of the charitable object of the surtaxes, it is understood that the Government will decline to give such an assurance.—Reuter.

Peking's Proposals for Employment

Peking, Nov. 15.

The Ministry of Communications has instructed the Chefoo-Weihsien Railway Bureau to the effect that, as that railway is already in course of construction, the Bureau must employ as many famine sufferers as possible, adding that, according to the Famine Relief Committee, many workers are available in the Lincheng district, where the famine is most acute.

The Ministry of the Interior has given instructions to the provincial authorities for the construction of highways between provinces and hsien wherever the public interests will be benefited thereby, as the two main highways which the Government is undertaking, viz: between Peking and Tsinan and between Tsinan and Kaifeng, are finding employment for comparatively few of the famine victims.—Reuter.

Japanese Famine Gifts

Tokio, Nov. 16.

The Japanese fund for the relief of the Chinese famine sufferers is actively progressing, and substantial results are expected. The Mitsui and Mitsubishi companies have contributed \$30,000 each, and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha \$25,000.—Reuter.

TRAGEDIES OF CHIHLI

The following letter from Bishop Loeroart, S.J., Vicar Apostolic of S. E. Chihli, Sienhsien, Nov. 4, is sent us by the Lazarist Fathers:—

The widespread distress and the scanty means at my disposal have forced me to diminish the sum allotted to each starving person out of the Committee's funds for this section of the country. To each child attending our schools, we now give only 5 cents per day, that is, one dollar per month, because our missionaries are overwhelmed with demands for help.

Out of the \$5,000 assigned by the Committee for old women's or orphan girls' homes I have given \$1,000 to Father Simon Li for the asylum referred to in the subjoined letter.

Working together with the mandarin and the ministers, we are dis-

tributing the \$10,000 allotted to the poor of Kuangpingfu.

3,000 sacks of wheat-flour, so we have been notified, have been shipped to us. I shall superintend the distribution so that it be done as fairly as possible without regard to the religion of the recipients. The members of the Shanghai Committee are perhaps unaware of the fact that the people, in this part of this part of the country, are not accustomed to using wheat-flour. Their staple articles of diet are based on millet, corn and sorghum, so that it would not be surprising if they sold at a loss the wheat-flour given them and buy other food with the proceeds.

MONEY NEEDED MOST.

I also wish to notify the members of the Committee that we are not able to deal out cereals to the population because of the lack of a sufficient staff at my command. I should much prefer money donations of 5 cents per head, for schools, asylums or abandoned poor persons, as the missionary in charge should judge best.

The missionaries cannot distribute, as it should be done, the donations in food form. One dollar per month is a fair and valuable help to a family, especially if there are several children who attend school.

Here is the letter of Father Simon Li, a Chinese priest:

"The houses are ready. \$1,000 would enable me to procure food during seven or eight months for 60 or 70 old women or orphan girls. In my district, Teshan, some persons have already died of hunger. All the leaves of the trees have been eaten. The other day, on a 10 li trip (4 miles) through a few villages, I met only one man. A regular desert! In Won-kia-ya I sought my Christians everywhere. I found but two old men, two women and several little girls crying and about to die."

SUICIDE AND SALE OF CHILDREN.

Letter from Father Ghostin.

Oct. 13, 1920. Weihsien, Chow-chuang.

Here, as in Sienhsien, there has been no crop and every day we behold samples of the greatest misery: children of a few months, of 2 or 3, even of 8 or 9 years of age, abandoned by their begging parents along the road, on the outskirts of villages, at the doors of the rich and the churches. I have been told that at Kuoku, a farmer, usually fairly well off with 20 mow of land, being obliged to beg and returning home empty-handed, put an end to his life by hanging himself. Many inhabitants have sold to pawnbrokers their winter clothes and bedding, so as to procure food or sowing-seed. The people tear off the leaves of the trees, especially those of the elm and the apricot-tree, boil them with wild plants and eat them, trying to deceive their stomachs and allay the pangs of hunger.

You may well imagine what a success became our project of opening schools where children, pagan and Christian, might receive a little help. Its success is almost despairing! I have opened schools for boys and schools for girls in at least 30 villages, limiting the

number of entrants to an average of 12 per teacher. I find myself faced with 800 little bodies to nourish. At the beginning, I expected to give each child 10 cents per day, but soon found myself obliged to cut down the amount to 5 cents per day. How long shall I be able to keep this up? Two months, three months perhaps . . . and then I shall close! . . .

WHERE THE HUNGRY BEG FOR LEAVES

The Procure des Lazaristes has received a heart-rending report from the Vicariate-Apostolic of Chihli Southwest. It is more than a mere account of misery; rather is it the prayer of the stricken for aid in their terrible ordeal.

After describing the district, which is computed to have 8,000,000 inhabitants, the report says:

For several months these poor people have been feeding on the leaves of trees, herbs and anything they are able to find in the fields. With the stalk of sorgho and maize they make a flour which they make into a soup and thus try to live. One hears by their voice, people reduced to the blackest misery. I have seen and heard them and I should weep. I have seen people come 200 li to ask, what?—that they might get the leaves of the haricots which they dry and carry home to feed their families, and I have learned later on that one of these unfortunates, worn out with fatigue and misery, died on the way home.

Up to now we have helped to relieve these poor famine-stricken people, more than our means permitted, counting on kind Providence to come to our aid. Here at the principal residence, we have received more than 2,000 persons. In the residences, the missionaries are doing all in their power to assist the starving and their residences are also encumbered. They distribute the alms which they try to collect. Everywhere we have distributed wheat to plant in their fields, and that in addition to what was given by Mr. Wang Taisie.

GRAIN AND STILL MORE GRAIN.

With the means at our disposal we might do something, but what are the resources of a mission before a misery so great as this, where millions are necessary to prevent the people from dying of hunger? We could receive children, old men, we could fill our orphanages, our hospices, our schools. Many missionaries have built sheds in order to be able to receive a larger number of poor. But all this conglomeration can only help to ferment contagious sickness, particularly in the spring. I believe that the most practical way to act would be to find houses in the villages to place the children and where they would have a school, and be fed, getting two meals a day, in the evening returning to their homes.

But it is not alone the children who are to be saved; it is every

one. Able-bodied men could work, if work were procured. And help could be given to women and little children in money or grain.

If the committees of benevolence would intrust the missionaries to make the distribution of money or grain, we could name a missionary in each district to do this work of charity, and it would be done in a conscientious manner and without any distinction of religion. In counting the actual cost of grain to feed one person for a month \$2.50 would be necessary.

AND THEN FUEL.

Up to this they have spoken only of grain, but to cook the food a fire is indispensable. The question of fire presents itself as well as the question of food. It must be made procurable or even provided. Coal to enable them to cook their food and to help to keep them warm during the severe cold of winter is an absolute necessity. There is also the question of clothes. In a misery so great and general, abundant and continual help is needed and for such a period until these poor afflicted people will be able to rely on themselves for sustenance.

The winter is approaching, and soon the herbs that helped to support them cannot be found. Being in daily contact with them it is easy to see that by their words and manner their anxiety increases. Poor people; what will become of them if something is not done? It is, therefore, of great importance to begin to work. Committees are formed and numerous delegates from different charitable associations have come to examine, and they can prove that nothing had been exaggerated. When will help begin to come?

A PRAYER.

Then to the work without delay, one day behind time may contribute to the deaths of many children, old men and women who are weaker and more exhausted by privation.

May the good and pitying God touch the hearts of the rich and fortunate and inspire them to come to the rescue and save the lives of millions of unfortunate creatures who cry to them for help.

HOW RELIEF IS GIVEN IN KAIFENG

The following letter has been sent us from Kaifeng, Ho., by Mr. G. E. Simmons, reporting on the expenditure of funds in that locality.—

In sending in this third report of moneys received and disbursed by the committee, I wish to add a few comments as to what the committee has accomplished up to the present and what it hopes to accomplish.

In Nei Huanghsien, which has been the worst hit in the province, by the aid of Mr. Chang Kan-yang, delegate from the Shanghai Committee, we have expended or are expending at the present \$52,000. In Wuan county

\$10,000 of our funds are being spent by the local committee, and 2,000 *tan* of kaoliang, with 1,600,000 copper cents are being dispensed by the Five Province Committee. For Linchang \$10,000 has been appropriated, and our northern representatives are being urged to start immediate relief work there. In Linhsien and Shehhsien the Chung Yuan Mining Co. and the Five Provinces Committee are expending \$20,000.

In Tangyingsien the representatives of Mr. Chiu Wei-chin, of Shanghai, are expending \$100,000. In Anyanghsien the Hankow representatives have expended or are expending for the Hua Pei Committee \$50,000. In the Weihsuei prefecture the second \$50,000 granted by the Shanghai Committee to Honan, is to be expended under the direction of the Roman Catholic Mission.

In Chiyuanhsien, which is in the Huaiching prefecture, our Committee has granted \$10,000 already, and it proposes to expend the contribution of the Fu Chung Corporation, which is in the adjacent county, very largely in Chiyuan. I reported that our committee had gained in strength by the addition of Mr. E. W. Fitchford of the Fu Chung Corporation. The wisdom of this linking up of the large business interests of the province with our work is apparent. At the recent meeting of the Corporation in Peking the board of directors granted \$30,000 for relief in this province, though \$10,000 passes through the Peking and Tientsin committees. Of this sum the needs of the Chiyuanhsien will receive first consideration.

In the west, where Mr. E. O. S. Beinhoff is acting for the Committee, over 7,000 *tan* of grain is even now being distributed, or will be distributed in the immediate future, in 13 counties. This grain cost our Committee \$3,000 and the original Committee convened by the Governors another \$40,000.

By the decisions of the Peking Conference, by which the Hankow Committee is asked to co-operate with our Honan Committee, our relief work for the province should go steadily on in its mission of saving the countless lives affected by the colossal calamity.

HUSKS FOR THE HUNGRY

Swine Food for Men

EYE-WITNESS'S STORY OF CHIYUANHSIN

From Our Own Correspondent.

Huaiking, Nov. 8.

For the following notes on the famine conditions in Shiyuanhsien we are indebted to the Rev. J. A. Mowat, B.A., Huaiking.

While writing of famine conditions in Chiyuanhsien I trust those cognizant of conditions elsewhere will not feel that I am underestimating the need in other parts. From all accounts I believe there

are many places in North China where the need is greater even than here.

Chiyuanhsien has a population of some 600,000 and a territory approximately 210 li long and 73 li wide (70 miles by 25 miles). Of this territory 40 li is level plain. A small section of the plain is reached by irrigating ditches and another small part can be watered from wells. Over a considerable part of the plain, however, wells are over 100-ft. deep and even then water obtainable is insufficient for watering land.

A fairly reliable estimate has been made from reports handed in from every village in the county of those in danger of absolute starvation and the figures are startling. Over 350,000 are involved very seriously and over 200,000 are faced now with starvation.

I have been investigating conditions personally and find in some respects that the outlook is not altogether hopeless. For one thing the fields are green with growing wheat and so give promise for a crop in the spring. For another the fear of robbers has been somewhat dispelled as the villagers in the mountain districts have banded themselves against them so that when an alarm is raised all come to the rescue. The fact that many villagers are somewhat expert with the use of primitive guns in hunting wild boar and deer make these protective bands a power not to be trifled with.

Yesterday I visited 15 villages in the famine area going into the houses of many people, and so was able to check up all their possessions. I also examined the threshing floors to see what sort of food was being prepared. I also watched them at their meals and at the same time took note of their clothing, as well as the number of animals and poultry visible.

NECESSITY FOR ECONOMY.

The food for at least 95 per cent. in the villages visited consisted of a mixture of bean pods, millet husks and the other waste parts of the peasant's food. These various articles of food were ground up fine and then placed in the sun to dry. Out in the fields men and women and children were employed in gathering a thistle-like weed that grows along with the wheat. These weeds along with the mixture mentioned above when boiled together make a thick soup. This is the sole diet for the day and for every day. The cost for the millet husks is 200 cash per bushel (20 coppers). It can be bought at present in the province of Shansi but no one can tell when the stock there will give out.

To purchase seed wheat the villages have disposed of over four-fifths of their donkeys and cows as well as winter clothing. They are now in most cases without a cash. Trees cannot now find a purchaser nor can land bring in anything at all to those who have land for sale.

In the 15 villages visited yesterday I could only find one pig and he looked as thin as a pig could possibly look and was busy eating

grass. There are still a few chickens and an occasional dog to be seen.

In two villages old men and old women crouched on the road and laid hold of my clothes refusing to let me go. A guard of two police sent by the county official had to help in getting me away. On all sides women held up emaciated children and spoke of others that had already died from hunger. They are crying now for immediate relief. What the cry will be when the winter is upon them is not hard to say.

I asked some of them what they were going to do for clothing when the winter was upon them. They replied "Stay indoors and try to keep from freezing by burning twigs and dried leaves."

What has been done up to the present? The Relief Committee in Peking sent \$250 to be expended on seed wheat. They have also sent \$10,000. The Kaifeng committee has promised another \$10,000, \$3,000 of which has already been received, for seed wheat.

The seed wheat has been given out, and within a few days one-tenth of a bushel of grain will be given to each destitute person. Arrangements are now under way to get in a shipment of grain with part of the money as the local supply is about exhausted. Within the past two days the price of millet has gone up 10 coppers per bushel.

WHAT CAN BE DONE.

There are different forms of work that should be undertaken at once in order to avoid so great a calamity visiting this place again. The Chin River, which flows through part of this country is an almost useless stream at present. As it comes out of the mountains it is partly used for irrigation purposes, but the most of its water is not being utilized. By making a tunnel through the mountain to the north of Chiyan city as much water as is required could be brought to the western end of the plain and over 50,000 acres could be irrigated. This would insure a good crop every year no matter how dry the season should be.

There are several roads that could also be undertaken and remade at comparatively little expense. A railway from Chinghua to Menghsien has been talked of for 15 years.

If that can be put through it would mean work for thousands of men this winter and although not all Chiyan men would be employed, yet it would mean so much more employment for the whole district and would inevitably affect the situation at Chiyan as well.

At present what is wanted very badly in the famine area is an assurance that fairly large sums of money will be available. If money is to be sent in occasionally and in small sums no large work can be attempted. Although everyone agrees that the principle of demanding work for help received is correct, yet it is necessary for a great deal of relief to be given outright, if the old and very young are to be saved.

In Chiyan a committee has

the whole matter of relief in hand. On this committee two Canadian missionaries are acting, one as chairman (jointly with the county official), the other is acting as vice-chairman. Both missionaries are prepared to give all their time to relief work if funds are provided.

"SQUEEZE" IN NAME OF FAMINE RELIEF

Telephone Charges Raised

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wuchang, Nov. 9.

The Government telephone administration for the Wu-Han cities has just issued a notice informing the subscribers that from November 1 and for the next 12 months the telephone rental will be raised 50 cents a month, the extra charge to be devoted to the relief of the famine-stricken people of the north.

While most foreigners and large numbers of the Chinese are willing to "do their bit" for the alleviation of the suffering millions, many of us are getting somewhat "fed up" with these officials' methods of levying contributions, and to put the matter bluntly we are beginning to wonder how much of this extra cash will find its way to the people for whom it is said to be collected.

The railways, telegraphs, telephones and postal service are all to be made to contribute to the famine funds and knowing the character of the majority of officials in this country in regard to the handling of public money, both foreigners and natives are beginning to suspect that the acute distress in the northern provinces is being made the excuse for indulging in a little extra squeeze.

If the Government is really acting "on the square" then it must set out to convince the sceptics of its honourable designs by issuing properly audited balance sheets.

KASHING FAMINE RELIEF

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kashing, Nov. 15.

Under the auspices of the Kashing Institute, which is the Social Service Department of the Presbyterian Mission, conferences were held with the leading citizens of the city and various groups organized to solicit subscriptions, and a concert was held in which Chinese and foreigners participated. Mr. J. J. Evans of Shanghai, Miss Sophie Graham of Hangchow Girls' School and Messrs. Pape and Meiser of Mokanshan, kindly came to our assistance.

Already \$376.19 have been remitted to the honorary treasurer in Shanghai and more is to follow.

CROPS AND BUILDING.

A big rice crop is nearly gathered, country people crowding the markets and business is brisk.

On Main Street we are having

some new style reinforced concrete four-storey buildings erected, all owned by local merchants. The people here threatened 25 years ago to burn the foreigners out for erecting two-storey buildings at that time. China is changing.

NEEDS OF FAMINE SUFFERERS

Claims of a Neglected Province

By G. Gramada.

Tsinanfu, Nov. 10.

Famine conditions are serious in Shantung. But the committees in Shanghai and Tientsin, to say nothing of Peking, have thus far ignored this province. If anything has been done the foreign and Chinese organizations in Tsinanfu know nothing of it.

About 5,000,000 persons are in danger and will have to be helped during the winter. Two millions are now actually starving and must die unless something is done to help them and done immediately. The foreign committee has something like \$6,000. The Chinese committee reports \$100,000 and plans to make a loan of \$60,000. The speaker of the Provincial Assembly told me that the committee planned to organize internationally, but that the anti-Japanese feeling in the province was still so effective that many Chinese opposed foreign membership on the Chinese committee.

AMERICAN RED CROSS ROAD.

The Chinese propose to distribute the money they raise through committees of gentry in the twenty hsien in the famine district. Except for the committee in Tsinanfu there is no central agency and the local gentry and magistrates will have to be trusted. The Chinese say that no man would be sufficiently contemptible to steal this kind of money.

The American Red Cross expects to build a road from Tenchow to Lintsing, about 175 li. The plan is to use 25,000 men to build the road, expending \$500,000. The Red Cross does not propose to distribute promiscuous relief. Rather, will it select as many persons as it can handle and see them through to a better harvest. The Tuchen of the province favours the road and is assisting in arranging matters with regard to rights of way. He did not at first quite understand that such a road would be the property of the people of the province of Shantung. He feared that the Americans might want to keep it. But when this point was cleared up, things began to move more rapidly.

CHINESE MISTRUST OF JAPAN.

The Provincial Assembly approves of the plan. So both the Speaker and Vice-Speaker told me this afternoon. But they are faced with a difficulty. It might occur to Japan, they say, to offer the same kind of gift, the same form of re-

lief. And what then? Would the Japanese hand the road over to the province as the Americans propose to do, or would they use it to spread more effectively the three curses: arms to bandits, opium and morphia? The Speaker and Vice-Speaker said that they would do all they could to convince their fellow-members of the Assembly to favour the Red Cross project and they were hopeful that Japan would assist Shantung sufferers in some other form.

MONEY FOR THE FAMINE SUFFERERS

"Christian Herald's" Response

The following letter giving an account of the ready response by the "Christian Herald" to an appeal for relief for victims of the famine has been sent to us:—

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Two months ago I wrote to the editors of the "Christian Herald," New York, telling them of the dire need and the great suffering of the poor people in Honan, Shansi and Shantung. I felt sure that if they fully realized the awful state of affairs up there they would come to their relief as they did so nobly in 1901, 1907 and 1911.

Their answer to my letter was a cable sent me on the 4th instant which read as follows: "Can you suggest Relief Fund Committee?" I cabled the names of four missionaries who are living in or near the famine district.

I received an answer to my cable to-day saying: "Approve Committee suggested. Will add several names. Funds will go through State Department. Keep us advised." So the good old "Christian Herald" has come to China's relief again.

It was my privilege to handle many tens of thousands of dollars for them in the Wuhu flood famine of 1901. Then in 1907 funds flowed in from the "Herald" for the famine of Tsingkiangpu, Kiangsue, and at Wuhu again in 1911. This gives us large hopes for this present famine.

Not only does the "Christian Herald" give grandly at the time of the severe test, but for many years afterwards she follows up her work in talking care of hundreds of famine orphans who are gathered into orphanages in different parts of the country. The Industrial Orphanage at Chinkiang, which is under the care of Mr. J. W. Bowler, is a grand example. This orphanage was started in 1907 and until three or four years ago was supported entirely by the "Christian Herald," but now by free will offerings of friends in China and America.

The famine field is so broad that all the funds which can be gathered from all parts of the world will be needed. A letter, therefore, to our Home papers might bring to

our relief many dollars. I hope the ready writers of Shanghai and Treaty Ports will, therefore, do this. A few moments' writing to papers will be seed well sown.

Rice is plentiful in Wuhu, Kiukiang and other ports, and if the trains would only carry it up to the needy centres it would quickly reach those in need. Five hundred junk loads were bought in a few days in Wuhu alone in the famine year of 1911. Why not try the same thing again?

Thanking you for space in your valuable paper,

I am, etc.,

Z. CHARLES BEALE,

Hochow, An., Nov. 16.

FAMINE RELIEF WORK IN NINGPO

From a Correspondent.

Ningpo, Nov. 13.

The Citizens' Famine Relief Committee ended its first campaign this week and reports a net amount over and above the expenses of the campaign of \$121.404. This does not include many subscriptions which have already been sent through business firms, the Customs, and through the local official of the city; also there have been many individuals and schools which have sent their subscriptions through friends in Shanghai or in the north, thus raising the total from Ningpo very much above the amount obtained through the local Committee's campaign. There are also many organizations yet to be heard from, churches throughout the country districts, local clubs, etc.

This afternoon in the large theatre near the railway station the Woman's Benefit Club of the North Bank gave a benefit entertainment which was unique in its character, and probably the first of its kind to be presented to a Ningpo audience. The programme consisted of drills and exercises and songs by the Baptist Girls' School, the Presbyterian Girls' School, three different kindergartens in the city, and songs by a chorus of young men and women. The amount from this entertainment has not yet been reported but it is hoped that it will be about \$500.

At a meeting of the Famine Relief Committee yesterday it was decided that six-tenths of the funds raised should go to the sufferers in the north and four-tenths to those around Ningpo and in Chékiang province. It was also decided to reduce the number of the Committee to seven, the large committee to meet about once a month as long as the need exists.

THE students of Soochow University, which gave \$1,000 to the Famine Relief Fund, have entered into an agreement to pay in cash \$1 each and to abstain from meat for two months, and the University refunded some \$300 on that account to be applied to Famine Relief.

ARMISTICE DAY AT TSINANFU

\$1,200 for Famine Relief

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsinan, Nov. 14.

The Tsinan Literary Society gave its Armistice Concert at the British Consulate by the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Pratt. The artistes, Mrs. Tolliday of Tientsin and Mr. Mawson of Taian, old friends of the Tsinan community, sang exquisitely. Ably assisted by Mrs. Torrey, Miss Pollard and Miss Hunter at the piano, they gave much delight to all present. At the close of the concert there was an auction by Dr. Wheeler of various gifts on behalf of the local foreign Famine Relief Fund. Business was brisk and hilarious. Although some of the domestic articles proved a puzzle to the auctioneer, he had no difficulty in leading the bachelors to bid up bravely. A tin of S. O. oil was auctioned with a tin of A. P. C. oil simultaneously but in friendly rivalry, a dead-heat honourably terminating the contest. The proceeds from the auction, sale of programmes and some money gifts realized in all \$1,200. After the auction our hostess refreshed us with supper, and then the programme concluded in a short dance.

In connexion with Famine Relief Work it is good to know that the students of the Shantung Christian University have just handed to Mr. Todnem the treasurer of the International Auxiliary for Famine Relief the sum of \$678, the proceeds of two dramatic performances which they organized a month ago in the Institute.

His Excellency Chen Lu, newly appointed Chinese Minister to France, returned to Shanghai from Hangchow a couple of days ago and is at present meeting merchants with a view to securing suggestions for the improvement of Sino-French trade.

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RUSSIANS UNDER CHINESE LAW

Confusion in Harbin

RUSSIAN POPULATION'S HOPELESS POSITION.

The following is a summary of a letter from the Harbin correspondent of the "Russian Echo."

The Russian population in Harbin is in a most trying position through the closing of the Court and Consulate and the approaching assumption of power by the Chinese authorities. It is nearly a month since the Consulate and the district Court were closed and the Girin-Bidjansk District (Chinese) Court started its functions. The closing of the Russian Court by armed Chinese took place with much noise and pompous display, but their zeal soon abated. So the judge of the 10th district of Harbin carried on his business till October 19. Then, however, the Chinese tribunal arrived, armed, in the court-house and claimed the handing over of the business. Though the Russian judge refused, the Chinese sealed the court entrances. At the same time he said that he was proceeding on the whole line to stop the business at all the other tribunals. The closing of the court of the 10th district is regarded as a very important matter. The Chinese judge took part in the seizing of the Russian courts, and with the arrival of the Vice-Minster of Justice Mr. Chan to settle the question of their re-organization, it seemed that the destruction of the institution was to continue.

EVERYTHING IN ORDER.

To satisfy the interests of Russian law, a court has been opened in Girin-Bidjansk in which judges with a knowledge of Russian are working. At the court entrance a big board announces, both in Chinese and Russian, the following: "On October 6 the Chinese attorney, after having examined the question of the release of Osipovich for which he had appealed, decided that the said question must wait for decision until further information from the Russian court has been received." The prisoners are in an awful position. A Mr. N., who was sentenced to four days' imprisonment, has already been for three weeks in prison, because the Chinese authorities are not able to certify this case though in possession of the necessary documents.

Even those who applauded the closing of the courts acknowledge that the methods of the Chinese tribunals are impossible. People who had been called by special notice waited till evening, but they were not allowed into the court although their case had already been decided.

CHINESE JUSTICE.

Here are the sort of things that occur. A man with a deadly pale face leaves the court, after having been locked behind iron bars with his witnesses and accusers. The

accused has been punished with the bamboo and his wounds afterwards smeared with some Chinese liquid.

At the court appears a chauffeur 16 years old. He has accidentally knocked down a boy who is mortally wounded. The chauffeur is afraid. The judge asks the dead boy's father if he will forgive him. What will be the man's fate? Execution, answer the judge. The chauffeur turns deadly pale. Of course the boy's father does not want to deprive his country of another citizen and asks to forgive him.

Another case. A little girl has been stolen from her father. The criminals are found. The judge examines the affair and the father is put under arrest behind iron bars with the criminals. He only just escapes.

New atrocities are registered every day. All Harbin is agitated by the arrival at the station of a gruesome cargo: on the platform lie the heads of a number of Hungutze. It is not yet decided when and where these trophies will be displayed.

It is stated that in Zizikara Russian officers are kept in chains at the station barracks. The Chinese authorities thinking that they were smuggling arms arrested them. A band of drummers accompanies these poor men every day on their march through the town followed by a laughing mob. One husband was redeemed by his wife for \$1,000.

One cannot wonder that crimes happen every day in Harbin. The Chinese police are not able to keep order.

Latterly it has been decided to organize for the civil cases, a court under Russian law with Chinese judges, but Russian Assistants. The criminal cases will be decided by the Chinese law.

GENERALS AS CAB-DRIVERS.

The abolition and restriction of the different organizations on the Ussuri line will leave many without work. Harbin is overcrowded with refugees and to find work is as hard as to win the first prize in a lottery. One may often meet an educated man selling fruit or other things in the streets.

One may hear a coachman addressing a poorly dressed passenger thus: "How do you do General?" And the response is: "How is your job getting on Captain?" and the captain describes his "lucky" life. The former comrade of Gaida, General Pepelaev is now driving a brougham for a livelihood.

A stone monument erected in the grounds of the Sojiji Temple at Tsurumi by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, in memory of the officers and men of the company's fleet who lost their lives at the hands of German submarine pirates during the war, will be unveiled on November 27. The epitaphs were composed by Baron Kondo, president of the company, and written by Admiral Togo.

AN ANTI-CHRISTIAN OUTBREAK

Disorderly Scene in Tokio

Tokio, Nov. 14.

An anti-Christian demonstration occurred in the Salvation Army Barracks here to-night. The major portion of the audience at a celebration of the silver jubilee of the Salvation Army in Japan refused to allow the meeting to proceed, shouting, singing and destroying the decorations in the hall. The mob sang the Japanese national anthem, Salvation Army members, including the pianist, joining in, until the meeting was thrown into complete disorder and the programme had to be abandoned. Previous meetings have been much disturbed and to-night's trouble came as a culmination.

Commandant Duce, of the Salvation Army, in a statement, remarked that the special meetings held by that organization recently had apparently revived anti-Christian agitation. He could not, he said, understand the Japanese police allowing such demonstrations. The day for that sort of thing had passed. The present attitude of the anti-Christian Buddhists was difficult to understand in the light of the recent Buddhist message to the Sunday School convention.

Despite the recent disorders, the meetings are continuing on Monday and Tuesday.—Reuter.

Salvation Army Banned in Japan

Tokio, Nov. 17.

The "Yamato" reports that the police have forbidden the holding of open-air meetings by the Salvation Army. The police are investigating the "Army's" preachings, apprehending that there may be disturbing elements at work under the cover of Christianity.

The "Yamato" quotes the chief of the Foreign Bureau of the Metropolitan Police as saying that the recent disorders would have been impossible if the Salvation Army had been preaching only the gospel of salvation, that, on the contrary, its conduct had been more political than religious lately, and that the authorities possessed evidence of this and were prepared to take steps if necessary.—Reuter.

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OUR HARBIN LETTER

The Prisoners' Plea

CHINA'S MISTAKES JAPAN'S OPPORTUNITY

From Our Own Correspondent.

Harbin, Oct. 19.

No doubt the Chinese judicial authorities were very much surprised to find that one of the first petitions or applications they received from Russian subjects after the Russian Courts had been closed was from some arrested persons temporarily inhabiting the Harbin prison. These persons asked to be released and not being able to get their gaolers to do the necessary work applied to the Chinese Court officials. As a matter of fact their application was quite justifiable seeing their release from prison had already been sanctioned by the Russian Courts just before they had been sealed by the Chinese. As, however, the legal powers appear still to be in the Court buildings nobody had the right to let them leave the prison before the necessary certificates of release were forthcoming. Seeing the hurry with which the Chinese authorities took over Russian rights it is not surprising that they have made quite a number of mistakes which the Russian local newspapers delight in showing up, showing only the Russian point of view regarding what was done.

THE ACQUISITIVE POLICE.

When it appeared that the Chinese authorities intended to take over the Russian post offices in Manchuria and actually sent police to the Harbin post office, for some reason or the other they got hold of the former postmaster who had been dismissed his post some little time back by the Minister of Justice of the Vladivostok Government and ordered him to take charge. This caused the new postmaster and the post office assistants, who were all against the former postmaster being restored to office, to appeal to Mr. Pompiansky, the Vladivostok representative in the C.E.R. area. The latter wired details of the case to Vladivostok with the result that the Government there appealed to the Chinese authorities here not to have the man reinstated, there being ample causes for his dismissal.

A few days back the Chinese police authorities received news that some 60 rifles were hidden away in the house occupied by a former Simionov general who was now living in Harbin and engaged in business. The police surrounded the house and conducted a close search, but could find no arms, so came away. A search was made a second time with the same results; the police however took away with them some six horses, the private property of the general and his friends. The latter lodged a complaint with the French Consul with the result that the horses have

been returned to their rightful owners.

EFFECTIVE BUT WRONG.

According to the Russian newspapers the police authorities are resorting to Chinese methods when dealing with Russians who have been arrested on some account or the other. Russians are being bamboozled in order to make them confess the crime for which they have been arrested. Though the Chinese method is in certain instances effective in putting down the spreading of crime, it must be condemned in principal as being out-of-date and contrary to the ethics of society. For the innocent suffer far more than the guilty.

A CLEVER ESCAPE.

Only a few days ago some seven Russian convicts sentenced to long terms of imprisonment for armed robberies and attempted murders managed to escape from the Harbin gaol and so far are still at large though the entire police force are after them. These men after making a hole in the wall of the cell which was unnoticed by the warder, gained access to the prison courtyard at one end of which is a deep ditch in which the pipes for the central heating system are laid; at the end of this ditch they made a tunnel under the prison wall by which they made their escape into the open late one night, the earth taken from the excavation being placed into the ditch. They escaped detection owing to the fact that the ditch is situated in a remote part of the courtyard which is but rarely visited by the prison personnel. Another four convicts were caught in the ditch itself, and according to the local newspapers, were each given 100 strokes with the bamboo in order that they would reveal the place to which their escaped companions had gone, but without any results as the men swore they did not know.

JAPAN'S CHANCE.

According to reliable information, former Russian authorities seeing that they are not likely to get any satisfaction from the Chinese authorities and dissatisfied with the apparent indifference of the Allied Powers are now appealing to the Japanese to use their influence to change the order of things and take all Russians under their protection, being of the opinion that the Japanese will, if they take matters in hand, allow the Russian Courts again to function. Now, as is well known, the Japanese are continually looking for a loophole in order to secure a firm footing inside the Chinese Eastern Railway area and no doubt would only be too willing to agree to these Russian proposals, granting the Russians much easier conditions than the Chinese. There are actually many Russians, who have never had any love for the Japanese, much preferring the Chinese who have now actually changed their manner of thinking owing to the indignities Russians have recently been put to quite unnecessarily by the Chinese authorities.

CHINESE RULE AT HARBIN

Outrageous Conduct of the Police

Already one case has occurred at Harbin in which a British subject has fared badly at the hands of the Chinese soldiery, and particulars are now to hand of another unpleasant experience of two Englishmen.

The incident occurred on October 31 when the gentlemen concerned were returning in a carriage from a shooting expedition.

About 6 p.m. while crossing the railway bridge connecting New Town with Pristan, their carriage was stopped by two Chinese soldier-police who without warning presented their rifles at the occupants and wrenched the lamps from the carriage. The lamps were not alight, and presumably this was the Harbin Police method of enforcing the lighting regulation. The two foreigners were rudely hustled at the point of loaded rifles when they offered to have the lamps lit and to proceed on their way, which hustling they justly resented. They were able to hold their own without, however,—though under great provocation, in view of the recent outrages inflicted by these men on foreigners—coming to blows with the soldiers.

A PERILOUS MOMENT.

At this point of the affair the soldiers, now reinforced, took hold of the shot guns which were lying on the carriage seat and tried to carry them off. In this they were frustrated, but again they proceeded to threaten the foreigners, presenting rifles at their heads. The foreigners were finally escorted to the police station in Harbin Railway Station.

Here again they were hustled and renewed attempts were made to deprive them of shot guns and game bags. They were then informed that they were arrested. No interpreter was forthcoming, and the telephone to the British Consul, they were led to believe, was disconnected while their request for the Chinese to send a card informing the Consul of the occurrence was refused. Whilst in custody they were ordered to stand to attention when the Chinese officials entered, which order was not complied with.

After many heated arguments carried on by the Chinese and Russian Police the foreigners were freed after having been detained about an hour. No apology was offered them. Had they not been fortunate enough to know a smattering of the Russian language in all probability they might have been still in custody.

A telegram published in the Chinese press states that Hsia Chun kao, president of the Foochow Students' Union, was assassinated on Saturday night, and that the assassin escaped.

SCOTTISH LETTER

Electrifying Highland Railway—The Cost of Prohibition—
Points for Gaelic—The Hardy Crofter*From Our Own Correspondent*

September 29.

Details are now available of an important development in the way of generating electricity from water-power for domestic and industrial purposes on a large scale, with particular reference to the North of Scotland. It is proposed that Inverness should be one of the electricity centres to serve the areas into which the country was divided following upon the report of the Water-Power Resources Committee. The scheme at present under consideration contemplates the supply of a wide area, with Inverness as its centre, and extending as far as Elgin to the east and Kingussie to the south, with main lines running to the north.

The announcement is at the same time made of the intention to electrify the Highland Railway. It has been common practice in recent years to electrify small subsidiary lines; but this will be the first instance of an important main line. The transition from steam to electricity as the motive power, it is understood, can easily be made. The standard gauge can be used, and the rolling-stock can readily be adapted for electrical haulage.

The Inverness scheme is only one of several that are gradually taking shape in Scotland. Experts consider that the utilization of water-power at present running to waste is quite practicable. The establishment of such centres as Inverness for the supply of electricity for a wide surrounding area opens up a new era in country life. It means that an abundant supply of electricity for lighting and industrial purposes will be available for the smallest country village. The dim, lamp-lit streets of the Scottish villages, with its effective oil flame for lighting the interiors of the dwellings, will soon be a thing of the past in large districts.

OPTIMISTIC "PUSSYFOOT."

"Pussyfoot" Johnston is again coming to Scotland to lead an intensive campaign "in that great drinking city" of Glasgow. The last time I had occasion to call upon him—strictly on business—he was in his shirt sleeves and wore an expensive green apron, his occupation at the moment being the emptying of boxes containing pamphlets and books. What struck me most about him was his complete lack of dignity and his cheery optimism. He might have been taken for a general merchant in a Scottish village, except that his conversation was strewn with American slang phrases.

A rough calculation has been made of the cost of the fire and counterfire in the Local Option

campaign. What with the present cost of paper and printing the conclusion is that before the vote is taken in Scotland during November, both sides will have spent not less than half a million of pounds in propaganda, either directly in cash or the equivalent of cash.

This, in my opinion, is an underestimate. From my personal knowledge of what is being spent, I should not hesitate to put down the sum at three-quarters of a million. And this will be only the beginning of the fight, for, whatever the result, another poll can be taken in three years.

A BOOM IN THE GAELIC.

The Gaelic Mod at Oban was very successful, and the cult of "the" language received a distinct impetus. One can scarcely accept the prophecy of one enthusiastic advocate, however, that Gaelic and Gaelic literature will soon be on the same footing as Greek and Latin in the schools throughout Scotland.

One is reminded of what Mrs. Stirling of Keir (Lord Lovat's sister) said in this connexion after her return from the Continent and South America. She found that her Gaelic-speaking maid picked up French and Spanish much more readily than one with only a single language. When in South America this bi-lingual girl was able to do a little shopping after a day or two, and had acquired quite a vocabulary before the visit was over.

Gaelic is one of the most archaic living languages in Europe, and it is said to contain all the vowel sounds of other existing languages on the Continent. Students who have spoken it from childhood are not so greatly puzzled when they have to hunt the verbs in Latin and Greek sentences. Indeed, it is held by some that they have a start by several points on one-language students.

The strength of the Scottish Gaelic movement lies in the fact that, unlike the Irish, it has no association with politics. "You have all the big people on your side," wrote an Irish scholar recently to an Edinburgh friend, "here they are all against us."

SIR ROBERT HORNE.

London scribes do not seem to be able to get away from Sir Robert Horne. One of them, writing in the "Globe," goes the length of saying that one result of the coal conferences is that Horne has definitely established himself as the successor of Mr. Bonar Law. He has several advantages. He is still quite young, he has no political pre-war record for critics to rake up against him, he has Scots

equanimity, and he is very well liked in the House of Commons. Personally (continues the "Globe" writer) I believe that a "squire" will never again lead the Conservatives, and that a man like Horne is much more likely to unite the party than any Cecil. The Prime Minister of the future will have to be an industrial expert, and by the time "Bobbie" has dealt with a few more crises, what he won't know about the mentality of the Labour leaders won't be worth knowing.

What most of the London writers forget is that Sir Robert is particularly well fitted to deal with the coal problems; as a boy he lived in the coal districts, and as an advocate he has had to deal with important and varied mining cases in Scotland.

THE CROFTERS OF THE HIGHLANDS.

The Highland crofter problem is one of perennial interest. But many people, even in the lowlands, know very little about this large and interesting class of our population. The present and future of the crofter, to be rightly understood, must be looked at from an ethical as well as a sociological point of view. To begin with it must be said that the average Highland crofter is a man imbued with a high sense of parental responsibility. He frequently rears a large family, and by precept and example impresses on their minds the importance of those virtues of thrift and independence of which we heard so much during the war. His aim is to send his sons and daughters into the world across the hills with good characters and good constitutions, and a sufficient degree of ambition to accomplish their social salvation. In some districts he enjoys a fair measure of comfort; in others he lives constantly on the brink of poverty, cultivating an inhospitable soil and sharing few of the enjoyments that are commonplaces in the lives of industrial workers in a city. Actual destitution, however, is scarcely known, even when the breadwinner suffers loss of health or dies; the widow's croft is tilled by her neighbours until her children are old enough to dispense with assistance. In the poorest townships there is no slum taint; poverty is not necessarily associated with crime; the class handicap is unknown among communities where family reputations are an accumulation of generations. The penniless widow's son can, if possessed of brains and character, take as full advantage of existing educational facilities as the son of a large farmer, and with the aid of scholarships and bursaries may reach and pass through a University to "wag his paw" in a pulpit, maintain the fair repute of Scottish medicine in England or the Colonies, or even sit in a professor's chair. Other croft reared lads may become anything from a policeman to a financier.

The croft can maintain permanently only one adult member

of a family; the remaining sons must migrate and find employment in centres of population in the homeland or on the boundless prairies across the ocean. Except in the Outer Hebrides, the squatting of sons on family crofts is scarcely known. Crofting townships are thus hatcheries of healthy and ambitious citizens and pioneers of Empire, accustomed to hardships, and not dismayed when confronted by them. The family tie is rarely severed, and "mindful lads" who prosper in distant lands are not slow to provide funds to ease the burden of ageing parents.

THE CROFTER FISHERMAN.

There is a variety of crofter, the crofter fisherman. His croft, especially when subdivided among squatters, is seldom little more than an allotment on which the house is situated. There is a world of difference between those who have comfortable crofts and those who can only grow miserable crofts of potatoes on poor land and catch just sufficient fish to provide food for their families during the winter. The pinched white faces of women and children tell their own tale in communities where Nature grudges soil and gives abundance of naught save rain.

It must be added that, although they often have grievances, Sinn Feinism is unknown even in the most remote Gaelic-speaking areas, and nowhere else are its anti-British tendencies more vigorously condemned. Indeed among crofters of all classes an innate love of country combines with traditional pride of race.

THE PAWKY SCOT.

A few days ago I had occasion to visit an old gentleman who is proprietor of a congeries of store-rooms and workshops filled with more or less antique furniture. It seemed to me that the risk to fire was considerable, the surrounding business premises being distinctly dangerous, and I asked if he did not find it difficult to secure insurance. "Indeed, the insurance companies are no' very willin'," he admitted; "but I've aye managed till now to get some smart young chaps o' insurance canvassers ready to tak' the risk. Ye see I aye tell them I'm gaun in for a big Life policy, and that if they tak' me for Fire they'll have me for Life." "And do they?" He chewed a shaving and chuckled as he replied "Every time! When they gi'e me my Fire policy I hand them my proposition for the Life yin, but it never gets any further, for ye see I have a bad he'rt, and the doctors 'll never pass me."

THE QUEEN DANCES.

This is a first hand criticism of the Queen as a dancer given by one of her partners at the Balmoral Ghillies' Ball—"Man, but she's wonderfu' light on the feet, and she tak's a rare grip o' ye."

GRAFT IN MAKING OF MEIJI SHRINE

Scandalous Allegations

Tokio, Nov. 12.

Mr. Kasagi, Chief of the Tokio Municipality Road Construction, has been arrested in connexion with the faulty construction of the Meiji shrine. As a result of police investigations, five leading contractors have also been arrested on a charge of "dishonest practices."

Serious disclosures are understood to be imminent. Inquiries are proceeding with a view to a thorough investigation.

The Chief Detective of the Metropolitan Police expects the scandal will be far-reaching. He agrees with the Mayor of Tokio, Viscount Tajiri, who is quoted by the press as denouncing the wire-pulling which he asserts is protecting the real culprables, those hitherto arrested merely being catspaws.

Meanwhile, the arrests are proceeding.

One charge against the contractors is that they have piled up roadmaking material in front of shops, to the point of seriously interfering with business, and then exacted bribes from the shopkeepers to have the rubble removed.

The "*Hochi*" quotes an Assemblyman as saying, "Judging from the estimates for gravel, one would have thought the streets would be paved with money, not gravel."

The condition of the Tokio streets has been shocking for years, and it is the general opinion that the ramifications of the present disclosures may provide an explanation.

The "*Osaka Shimpō*" reports that 20 roadmakers were clubbed to death by an overseer and five assistants, during the building of military roads in Saghalien: the unfortunate workmen had had the temerity to demand higher wages.—Reuter.

Tokio, Nov. 14.

Thus far, 15 persons have been arrested in connexion with the street scandal. These include several prominent officials, contractors and others.—Reuter.

ACCORDING to the Kobe "*Shimbun*," the percentage of exports to the population in England stood at as high as Y.90 per person in pre-war times, while Japan exported at the rate of Y.10, America of Y.22.50, and Germany of Y.52.50. The war, however, hit Britain's foreign trade to such an extent that her principal markets were invaded by America and Japan. With the advent of the armistice, a normal condition has gradually been restored, in face of many difficulties, such as constant strikes. Exports from March to the end of May were calculated at Y.3,290,000,000, and since then have been in progress at the same rate.

SPY SCARE IN JAPAN

More Stolen Map Stories

Tokio, Nov. 15.

The "*Yomiuri*" publishes a report to the effect that the sergeant-major of the Garrison Hospital in Formosa stole a number of military documents, and arranged for their sale to Mr. H. B. Hitchcock, who until recently was the American Consul stationed at Taihoku, Formosa. According to the "*Yomiuri*," he was caught by gendarmes when attempting to make a delivery of the documents to Mr. Hitchcock's successor. The price agreed upon was Y.100,000. The sergeant-major is reported to have confessed the above facts.

Mr. Bell, the Chargé d'Affaires at the American Embassy, has furnished an explanation which sets an entirely different complexion on the case. He says that the sergeant visited Mr. Hitchcock and offered him some maps for sale, whereupon the Consul notified the authorities, who established a watch. The sergeant kept away, suspecting trouble, but approached Mr. Hitchcock's successor, Mr. E. H. Dooman (who was formerly at Kobe) and renewed his offer to sell. Mr. Dooman asked the man to wait at the consulate, and meanwhile notified the military authorities. The traitor was arrested at the gate of the American Consulate solely through the information supplied by the Consul.

The Japanese press is continually hinting at American endeavours to bribe Japanese so as to secure military secrets and naval plans.—Reuter.

WHETHER Mr. Morris, U. S. Ambassador to Japan, will return to Japan, now that a Republican Administration is destined to come into power, is at present unknown, but it is rumoured that he may be succeeded by Major-General Charles Hitchcock, ex-Ambassador to the Argentine Republic, or Mr. S. A. Vanderlip.

WITHOUT PURE BLOOD HEALTH IS IMPOSSIBLE VETARZO BLOOD MEDICINE

Never before was there anything like it, nor can its marvellous properties ever be equalled in all cases of poorness, impurity, or other imperfection of the blood from whatever cause arising. No sooner is it imbibed into the system than it permeates and penetrates to the minutest capillaries, overcoming and expelling disease, wheresoever and in whatsoever form met with; removing all blotches, pimples, scurf, scurvy, scrofulous and glandular swellings, discolorations, roughness and unsightly patches. Its effects are almost magical in the treatment of gout, rheumatism, sciatica, lumbago, pain and swelling of the joints, blood poison, eczema, lepra, psoriasis, bad legs, bad breasts, abscesses, ulcers, wounds, sores, goitre or Derbyshire neck; it improves the general health, and quickly removes long-standing bronchitis, asthma, and hacking straining, spasmodic cough, too often the precursor of consumption.

LIFE WITHOUT HEALTH IS LIVING DEATH VETARZO BRAIN AND NERVE FOOD

The latest discovery of modern times for premature decay or deficiency of vital forces. Bracing up the system generally, it gives tone to the exhausted nerves, restores the failing energies, and imparts new life and vigor to those who seemed played out, used up and valueless.

Send stamp address envelope for Free Booklet or P.O. 2/3 for Trial Bottle of either remedy to THE VETARZO REMEDIES CO., Gospel Oak, London. Unprincipled vendors may try to sell you something else for extra profit, do not accept it, but insist on having VETARZO to avoid disappointment. The genuine bad words "VETARZO REMEDIES" on Government Stamp. SOLD BY BOOTHS' CASH CHEMISTS.

WOMAN IN CHINESE LIFE

Interesting Address by
Mrs. Chong

From a Correspondent.

London, Sept. 28.

Mrs. Lo Chong, the wife of the Chinese Consul-General in England, returned last Monday from Christiania, whither she had been to attend the Women's International Conference as the delegate of the Chinese Government. Mrs. Alfred Sze, the wife of the Minister, should have gone according to the original plan, but her health is not just now very satisfactory, and the strain of the function might have been too much for her. At two days' notice Mrs. Lo stepped into the breach, and she thus narrates her experiences in clear and very good English, with only an occasional search after a particular word.

"Of course China is very much behind other countries in respect of gatherings of this nature. There were 28 Governments represented, but also many Women's Councils, and we have no Women's Councils in China. That is the first step we have to take. It is, though, a big job—"and Mrs. Lo sighed—"but we ought to do quite well, if we make a beginning in the big cities along the sea coasts. Women in China always play a big rôle in our life, much bigger than people outside the country think. At several periods of our history you will find rulers very much like your Queen Elizabeth. Women's influence did not begin in the ruling life of the country with the late Empress-Dowager. In the home, the Chinese woman exercises and always has exercised great indirect influence, not merely upon the husband but upon the sons, and if she liked to extend her activities the effect would be still more noticeable.

MAKING HASTE SLOWLY.

"Women with us do not play the same rôle in public life as they do here. We had women members in our first Republican Parliament, but they have disappeared, and even now though women are beginning to take up the professions they are limiting themselves to certain which come well within their competence. They are particularly taking up medicine, nursing, and even music. I mean Western music, because most Chinese women have also a knowledge of Eastern music. Many are going abroad to study both in America and here, and several are taking up music as a profession. When they return I expect they will begin teaching. I sometimes think that you do not know how many Chinese women you have studying among you; there are at least 12 in London, and there are more in America. They are not at present taking up such things as Law or Engineering. Your women have only taken up Engineering within the last few years, and then they took it up because of an emergency—yes, that is the word—and we have still to see whether they will continue to study and practise it.

agency—yes, that is the word—and we have still to see whether they will continue to study and practise it.

"Woman in China at the present time ranks just the same as man with regard to education. The classes and the teaching are the same for both, only of course the girls are in one set of classes and the men in another. There is however not enough education for women. The Government does much, but the country is very large, and we have no such thing as education for everyone. All we can do is to increase public interest in educational matters, and thereby ensure the provision of greater facilities. In respect of public health we can do the same.

WOMAN'S INFLUENCE WANTED.

Women's influence is very badly needed in these matters. Let me give one instance only. You know that in the thickly populated districts it is quite common for parents whose children have died to bury them without coffins under a thin covering of earth, so that if there is any flood or any contact with the local water supply epidemics are quite certain. As a result there is a wholesale destruction of life which might be prevented. Even such a large city as Canton—I am a Cantonese," added Mrs. Lo brightly, and with obvious pride, has no waterworks system, and the public draws its water mostly from wells. We women have to get to work to influence public opinion in the direction of reform, and we probably shall do so indirectly because we are quite sure that our influence so exercised will be effective. I am sending in my report to the Government, and I suppose my recommendations on public health will go to the Minister of the Interior and on education to the Board of Education.

"We then have to set to work to create organizations of women to establish branches in the different cities so that we too may form a Council. I do not think there will be much difficulty. Chinese women are already directly interested in such things as Red Cross Work and nursing movements, and it will therefore be easy to bring together those who are sufficiently educated and enthusiastic to take the matter up. No doubt, the more educated Chinese women are in the upper classes; in the middle classes the women are perhaps obliged to concentrate on the practical side of life, while in the lower classes there is far less education. There are, though, a large number of Chinese women who are extremely well educated not merely from the Chinese but from the Western standpoint. They are able to speak Mandarin, Cantonese and Fokienese, on the one hand and English and French on the other. They are very well read.

NATIONAL COSTUME BEST.

There is a large Chinese literature with which they are familiar, and many have a good knowledge of Western literature. At the same

time, women are largely clinging to their national ideals—of Confucianism—while at the same time they are studying the best Western ideals. They are perhaps in this respect different from so many of the men who are giving up the one before they have really understood and appreciated the other. I should say myself that a great many Chinese women follow education from a philosophic standpoint, without any intention of drawing from it any immediate practical advantage, and therein I think is one of the great advantages to the China of the future. Women are conservative everywhere, and they are so in China. It is true that at times you occasionally see Chinese women wearing European costumes—even the modern jumper—but the vast majority of women cling to the national costume which of course with the extremes of heat and cold is the best and most appropriate for them. There is thus no particular haste to Westernise the nation. You will remember that at the time of the Republic there were a very large number of men who abandoned their native costume and adopted in preference Western attire. Since then they have nearly all reverted to the former. What Chinese women especially need is to travel, and make themselves familiar with foreign countries. There are quite a number who do so now, although as they think it necessary to adopt Western attire, most people take them for Japanese. But a great extension of this movement is needed.

"Perhaps much of the driving force in China comes from our Cantonese women. It may be that we are the most independent of thought and advanced in ways, because we live near the sea and come more in touch with the world; but whatever the reason, I think that most people will admit the extent of Southern influence. Even in Peking there are many Cantonese women clever, cultured, intellectual and with a thorough knowledge both of Chinese matters and of Western ways. What we need is organization, and in my report I hope to make recommendations which will bring my sex together and enable us at all events to make a beginning on what must be a large and very lengthy undertaking. I am though very hopeful, since as I say Woman in China is far more influential than most people think, that the results will soon be manifest."

ON behalf of the Canadian Presbyterian Missionaries in Honan, Mrs. D. MacGillivray wishes to acknowledge receipt of the following sums for famine relief,—Mrs. and the Misses Young Allen, \$60.00; Students and Faculty, Nanking Theological Seminary, \$230.60; Chinese friend in England, per I. Mason, \$20.00; Dr. H. Woods, \$10.00; Dr. and Mrs. S. I. Woodbridge, \$20.00; collections in Union Church on Sunday, November 7, \$1,104.79; and Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Vale, \$10.00.

SHANGHAI NEWS

AUTUMN FLOWER SHOW

A Splendid Display

Those people who love flowers and colour found the Autumn Flower Show of the Shanghai Horticultural Society a most beautiful and interesting spectacle. This show was given on the Bund near the Public Garden.

The main room was a mass of variously coloured chrysanthemums. At the entrance there was a bank of wine-coloured flowers of the type which the Chinese call the lotus flower, as it has a big eye and the petals curl up into the shape of a cup. Behind this and around one edge of the pavilion were rows of pots of yellow ball chrysanthemums mingled with white and pink. Here there were some tiny dragon's eye chrysanthemums and beyond some huge cartwheels of purple and silver flowers all growing from one stem.

SOME PRIZE GROUPS.

In the centre of the building were the medal groups. Mrs. Ezra's group was the most showy, as it was the biggest and showed only the three colours, white, gold, and purple. The white flowers were of the variety called "ear-picks," since their petals resemble the ear-picks used in Chinese barber shops. This group only took the second prize, however, as the one brought in by Mrs. F. Ayscough seemed to represent more skill and care in tending. There were six pots in this group, each filled with a different variety of chrysanthemum, some of which are very difficult to train. The group of single blooms which had been rooted late in the spring were most interesting. In these groups there were several blooms that resemble the tiger lily in colouring. The petals of these are red inside and gold outside, so that the Chinese call the flower "red heaven and gold ground." Mr. Macgregor pointed out a pot of stiff white chrysanthemums which he said were over-fed and remarked that over-feeding makes a gross flower out of one which should have been dainty. At the rear, there were terraced pots of flowers of every colour, which were very effective. There were primrose, cerise, a kind of grey-lavender, many colours tipped with white, and many, too, that defy description.

Further back on one side was an exhibition of foliage and scarlet sage, heliotrope and poinsettias, which was very effective. Here there was a pot of cloton, the decorative grass which is so abundant around Singapore, and a huge tropical foliage plant which resembles a begonia, and a variety of fern called the "deer's horn," which has a huge centre like a pineapple.

THE VEGETABLE SECTION.

It was on this side that the vegetables were exhibited and this

was probably of especial interest to the people of Shanghai who have come to think that all the vegetables worth eating are back in the homeland. Here you could see the finest of sweetcorn, beans, tomatoes, parsnips, beets, okra, and potatoes. There were also exhibits of mint, parsley, sage, and horse radish. And we could go on and name cauliflower, cabbage, leeks, carrots, Jerusalem artichokes, until the list seemed endless. They were clean, fresh-looking vegetables, free from blemish, and of a nice, even size.

TABLE DECORATIONS.

On the opposite side the table decoration contest was being held, but this was not of particular merit. There was one table that was quite effective with cream rose-buds and wine-coloured button chrysanthemums and another that was a riot of autumn colouring with gold and purple-tinted blooms and maple leaves. Other flowers that were used for this purpose were violets, carnations, and tea-roses. Maidenhair and soft ferns were also used.

A MOVIE CAMPAIGN

Cinema as Aid to Health

Dr. W. W. Peter, of the Council on Health Education, gave a most interesting lecture on Wednesday evening at the Union Church Hall under the auspices of the Literary and Social Guild, on the latest means of teaching health principles to the Chinese—by means of the cinematograph. He said that great interest was being shown at present in health questions, especially by Europeans, who now had the opportunity to devote themselves again to matters which had been allowed to lie dormant during the war. They were devising many new means of bringing health principles before the people, prominent amongst these being the cinematograph.

At present, he had 26,000 feet of films and several thousand lantern slides, while still more material was coming from Great Britain shortly. Their purpose was to interpret modern health ideals to the Chinese and if there were any people who needed this, it certainly was the Chinese. Doctors here had nothing but general information to work upon. They had not even vital statistics, which Dr. Stanley found it difficult enough to secure even in Shanghai. So, recognizing how important it was to bring health ideals before the Chinese, these films had been produced primarily for their education.

Dr. Peter then ran off some of the films—"The Care of Children," "Mosquito Control," "A Modern Health Crusade" and "Jinks, a Health Comedy." All were cleverly arranged, with sufficient of a story in them to maintain interest and a spice of comedy to enliven them, whilst all the time pointing morals and teaching either the cure or prevention of disease.

COMMERCIAL AIR ROADS IN CHINA

Engineering Soc. Lecture

The Engineering Society of China held the second meeting of the 1920-21 session on Tuesday evening at the Royal Asiatic Society's Rooms, when Dr. Chatley delivered a paper entitled "Commercial Aeronautics in China."

Dr. Chatley, who is an Associate Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society of Great Britain, and was engaged in aeronautical research before the war, opened his paper to the Engineering Society by referring to the fact that the part to be played by aircraft in China in the future had already been envisaged in connexion with the Shanghai Harbour Investigation with which he is now associated.

His own interest in the subject dated back to the year 1900 and the imminence of local developments had suggested the suitability of a paper. It was not proposed to deal with dirigible balloons owing to the technical difficulties of handling those craft in China.

THE QUESTION OF COST.

The main principles of aeroplane practice from an economic point of view were then considered and it was shown that for fuel alone even under good conditions the expense would amount to \$0.25 per freight ton-mile. The overhead expenses (not including ground costs) were then shown to bring the total to upwards of \$2.00 per ton-mile. The ground costs were next considered and it was shown that a total figure of \$3.50 per ton-mile was quite probable. Home prices from 5/- to 14/6 per ton-mile were mentioned for comparison. Thus 700 lb. of cargo could be carried daily 540 miles at about \$1 per lb. or four passengers could be taken the same distance at \$150 per trip.

The weather conditions and the topographical difficulties were then considered and finally certain conclusions were indicated.

- (1) A purely mail service would necessitate heavy franking of mails.
- (2) A passenger service might not be financially sound.
- (3) A cargo service can only be operated when carrying valuable goods.
- (4) Aerial service can only be a success when plying between two highly developed centres.
- (5) Aeroplanes already begin to compare with automobiles for long distance transport.

He concluded by a consideration of the various possibilities for improvement of the economic conditions and mentioned his indebtedness to Col. F. V. Holt of Peking for kind criticisms of his paper.

Several visitors interested in aeronautics were present, and an interesting discussion followed the reading of the paper.

CAPTURE OF ARMED ROBBERS

A Lunghua Gang

At the Mixed Court on Tuesday morning, before Mr. Li (Magistrate) and Mr. Jacobs (American Assessor), a Chinese, described as a coolie, was charged with having been concerned together with four others not yet in custody, in entering an exchange shop in Edinburgh Road at 7.40 p.m. on the 15th instant, and therein, under threats of violence, stealing the sum of \$175 in notes, Mexican dollars and small money.

Det.-Sgt. Yorke gave evidence that about 7.20 p.m. on the 15th instant an armed robbery took place at an exchange shop near the corner of Edinburgh and Yuyuen Roads. Six men entered the shop, and it was reported by the inmates that two were armed with revolvers and two with knives. A foreigner named Mr. Burdett, who lived close by, heard the noise and went to the assistance of the inmates of the shop, but was compelled to retire owing to the threats of the robbers. After the robbery, five of the men went in a southerly direction along Edinburgh Road, and one of them, the accused, went along Yuyuen Road. The latter was caught by Chinese P. C. 803, who had been informed of the affair by a ricscha coolie. The ricscha coolie had seen the accused get into a ricscha and had followed him up. When taken to the Police Station the accused admitted that he was one of the men who had robbed the shop, and told the name of the principal, who, he said, lived in a house near Lunghua.

EXCITING SCENE AT LUNGHUA.

Witness and a Chinese detective went with the accused to the house near Lunghua, and accused was told to go and knock at the door. He did so, and the door was opened to the extent of about six inches by a man who, accused said, was Lao Peh, the head of the gang. Lao Peh attempted to close the door, but witness put his full weight against it and forced it open. Then witness, seeing the man stoop down as though to get a revolver, shot him in the back. Witness then put the wounded man in a car and took him to hospital. Witness had seen the man since and he was then conscious. He told witness the names of the other members of the gang. Both the wounded man and the accused now before the Court admitted that they were members of the gang.

The bullet by which the man had been wounded had not yet been found and it might have touched his spinal column. The doctor at the hospital said that it might be necessary to operate and that the man might die. Witness therefore asked that the Court would visit the hospital and take the man's statement.

OTHER BIRDS TO NET.

The man now before the Court said that he did not know the names of the other members of the gang, as he was merely taken to the scene of the robbery by the man who had since been wounded. The statement of the wounded man would be essential in case the other members of the gang were arrested, as neither the shop assistants nor Mr. Burdett were able to identify them. Dr. Price had stated that the wounded man was in no immediate danger, but his lower limbs were paralyzed and he might die at any time.

There was another man in the same room as the man who had been shot in the house at Lunghua, but witness did not think he had anything to do with the robbery. He had the appearance of a ricscha coolie. He was at present in the custody of the City police, and witness asked for a despatch warrant for him to be handed over to the Municipal Police.

Sergt. Yorke's evidence was corroborated by Chinese Detective Ching Ling.

The Assessor said that the Magistrate could not visit the hospital that day, as he would be engaged in the Court during the afternoon. The police had better inform the Court of the man's condition, and they could arrange to take his statement later, after which the case would be set down for special hearing.

RACE CLUB'S GIFT TO CHARING X HOSPITAL

The following telegram has been received by Mr. W. S. Jackson, Chairman of the Shanghai Race Club, from Lord Lonsdale, in acknowledgement of the Club's gift of £5,000, forwarded to London last week to complete the endowment of a ward in the hospital in the name of the Club:—

"Jackson, Race Club, Shanghai: Thank you for splendid munificent gift Charing Cross. This enables ward to be designated Shanghai Race Club ward, which unfortunately was not quite possible before. Lonsdale."

The gift completes the Race Club's contribution of £21,000 to the hospital. The money will be invested and will provide an income sufficient for the endowment of the 12 beds in the ward. We are sure the public generally will appreciate this method of distributing the funds.

A fire on the str. Fatshan soon after her arrival at Canton last on the 10th instant caused much excitement. It started amidship, apparently in the stewards' room, and the flames reached the promenade deck before the good work of the officers, helped by some soldiers with boxes from the Sun building, succeeded in extinguishing the outbreak.

BRITISH DIVORCE IN CHINA

Jurisdiction is Given to Supreme Court

The important announcement is made that, as the result of representations to the British Foreign Office early in the present year, jurisdiction in divorce has been granted to H. M. Supreme Court in Shanghai. We understand that the order will come into effect immediately, and that the duties of King's Proctor will be added to those of Crown Advocate, the office now held by Mr. H. P. Wilkinson.

It had long been felt that, as the law stood, British subjects were, to say the least, at a disadvantage in being unable to get divorce unless the complaining party took proceedings at Home, even though evidence might be taken here on commission to be forwarded to London. In cases where action was taken at Home, a commission was sent out here ordering the Court to take evidence, which evidence was then sent home, and if considered full enough, the Court dealt with the case. This remedy was just as expensive as any divorce suit; in fact rather more expensive through evidence having to be taken on commission.

AN EGYPTIAN PRECEDENT.

The change now made has been rendered possible through a decision of the House of Lords in the case of *Casdagli v. Casdagli*. In this case, it was decided that a petitioner who had, as it was held, obtained an Anglo-Egyptian domicile, although a British subject, could not bring a suit for divorce in the Supreme Court at Home: even though the British Courts in Egypt had no jurisdiction in divorce; and it was felt that, on the authority of this case, there might be British subjects living in China who could neither get divorce in the Home courts (as having acquired an Anglo-Chinese domicile) nor could they, through want of jurisdiction in H. M. Supreme Court here, obtain a divorce anywhere.

In these circumstances, representations were made to H. M. Foreign Office, with the result that an intimation has just been received that jurisdiction in divorce will be given to H. M. Supreme Court for China; limited, however, to the cases of British subjects "domiciled" in China, people who as the above ruling shows, formerly were unable to obtain a divorce either here or at Home. Expenses in connexion with this procedure will be much less than formerly. The law to be applied will, of course, be the law of England.

PURCHASE of land near the Arsenal at Lunghua by Japanese has been prohibited by the Chinese military authorities, states the Chinese press.

THE BELLE OF NEW YORK

A. D. C. Production

Ichabod Bronson (President of the Young Men's Rescue League of Cohoes)...Mr. G. B. Stormes.
 Harry Bronson (His son—a man about town)...Mr. D. J. Donne.
 Doc. Snifkins (Father of the Queen of Comic Opera)...Mr. M. Speelman.
 Karl Von Pumpnick (A Polite Lunatic)...Mr. M. D. Silas.
 Blinkie Bill McQuirk (A Mixed Ale Puglist)...Mr. A. S. Glemby.
 Kenneth Mugg (Low Comedian of the Opera Angeli-que Opera Company)...Mr. A. F. Blanchard.
 Count Ratsi (Twin Portuguese Nobleman)...Mr. J. Cannan.
 Count Patsi (Twin Portuguese Nobleman)...Mr. J. Ratcliff.
 Mr. Twiddles (Harry Bronson's Private Secretary)...Mr. H. H. L. Warrenner.
 Fricot (A French Chef)...Mr. G. Berthelin.
 Mr. Snooper (A Newspaper Reporter)...Mr. H. F. Landers.
 Mr. Peeper (A Photographer)...Mr. G. M. James.
 William (A Butler)...Mr. W. Weston.
 Violet Gray (Salvation Army Lassie)...Miss May De Souza.
 Fifi Fricot (A Little Parisienne)...Mrs. W. J. Isenman.
 Cora Angeli-que (The Queen of Comic Opera)...Mrs. R. Spunt.
 Kissy Fitzgerald (A Music Hall Dancer)...Mrs. Chris. Wingrove.
 Pansy Pinns (A Soubrette)...Miss Petersen.
 Mamie Clancy...Mrs. Chris. Wingrove.
 Bridesmaids: Mesdames Elmore, Griffin, Lockhart, Roberts, Misses Petersen and Boyes.
 Purity League, Housemaids, and Drummers: Mesdames Dickson and Schlobohm, Misses Balcen, Heal, Harvey, James, Maxwell, Parratt, Rarney-Brode, Robin, Walker and Wohlgemuth.
 Rescue League, Guests, etc.: Messrs. Davis, Dumbarton, Fardel, King, Neilsen, Rutherford, Schlobohm, Standing, Sullivan and Tatam.
 Ballet: Misses Grey, Hamilton, Lemiere, G. Lemiere, Sharples and Woods.
 Musical Director...Mr. Jack Raynes.
 Hon. Secretary...Mr. W. H. L. Warrenner.
 Scenery...Mr. R. T. Peyton-Griffin.
 Lighting...Mr. S. J. A. March.
 Costumes...Madame R. A. Berthel.
 Properties...Mr. W. Armstrong.
 The whole produced by Mr. J. E. M. Lemiere.

In one respect "The Belle of New York" is different to other A. D. C. productions, namely, the scenery. One hazards a guess that the production was so expensive in other respects that the A. D. C. was obliged to economize in this direction, with the further incentive to doing so that the largest possible stage is required and that there are several changes of scenery, all to be effected in very short time and with no available space in which to store what is not needed in the particular scene being played. And the policy is sound, for in a play like "The Belle" it is, visually speaking, the dresses that count, and these are beautiful, the frequently recurring massed effects being most effective.

That the production as a whole is a success was universally agreed.

All those responsible are warmly to be complimented upon their work, the more so that musical comedy is at all times difficult for any but thoroughly experienced comedians, especially one so generally familiar as "The Belle of New York." It is difficult to believe that the play is well over 20 years old, so fresh the music still is, though played many thousands of times and as familiar as A. B. C. Yet it was as delightful to hear it as ever, and the singing as a whole being very good one is grateful to all these people who have been working hard for many weeks past to make the production worthy of the piece and of the A. D. C.'s high record. There was very little trace of "first night" nerves. Musical comedy consists mainly of a succession of turns, and the succession was quickly and smoothly effected, and the whole play went with a swing. The chorus was out of time once or twice both with feet and voice. But this is merely a matter of watching the conductor, which the first night's excitement easily causes to be forgotten. As a whole, the play provides a delightful evening's entertainment and the revival of many happy memories.

As the Belle herself, Miss May de Souza naturally comes first, and as always it was charming to watch her work, in which there is a finish and a mastery that must be the envy of all. Her singing, too, is exquisite, with the ease and sureness which only come of unremitting practice. As Fifi Mrs. Isenman took on work of a kind new to her, and did so with eminent success. She sang as always extremely well and her acting was very graceful and dainty. Was not the song "Teach me how to love" too slow, however? Perhaps this was the will of Mr. Jack Raynes, and as he has conducted "The Belle of New York" hundreds of times he is probably right. But it struck us as unnecessarily drawn out. Mr. Donne gave a pleasant rendering of Bronson, and may reckon the part among the best of the many he has played. Mr. Stormes as his father Ichabod has been seen in parts which gave him more scope, but, as always, he sang and acted with the sureness of long experience. Mr. Speelman was excellent as Doc. Snifkins, and there might with advantage have been lots more of his dance in the Central Station. Everybody enjoyed the polite lunatic of Mr. Silas, the success of which was all the more creditable in that the original polite lunatic set a quite unforgettably high standard. And we all liked the twins of Mr. Cannan and Mr. Ratcliff. Mrs. R. Spunt as the defrauded Cora gave a lively impression of an enraged comic opera queen "off" the boards, as did Mrs. Chris. Wingrove of Kissy Fitzgerald. Mrs. Wingrove doubled this part with that of Mamie, and she and Mr. Glemby as Blinkie Bill enjoyed themselves hugely and won loud applause, their dancing being most popular. Mr. Blanchard's make-up and gesture were all that they should have been, and in the

WEDDING

Brand—Burkill

A very pretty wedding took place on Monday afternoon at Holy Trinity Cathedral when Miss Katharine Joyce Burkill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Burkill, was married to Mr. John Kenneth Brand, son of Mrs. and the late Mr. David Brand. Both families being of old residence and very well known in Shanghai, there was a great number of friends at the Cathedral and at the reception afterwards at Mr. and Mrs. Burkill's house in Weihaiwei Road. The Cathedral was exquisitely decorated with a great profusion of chrysanthemums of all shades of gold. The ceremony was conducted by the Very Rev. Dean Symons, and the service was choral, with Mr. Hurry, MUS. BAC., at the organ. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming, her white satin dress being trimmed with old lace and a pearl girdle. She wore a long tulle veil, which came right down to form a train. She was attended by the little Misses Nellie Marshall and Phyllis Cumming as bridesmaids: their dresses were gold tinsel over flesh-pink crêpe de Chine, with gold girdles and gold caps, and they carried pink posies. Mr. David Brand, the bridegroom's elder brother, was best man, and there were four ushers, Mr. J. H. Liddell, Mr. H. M. Hind, Mr. R. I. Fearon and Mr. S. B. M. Bremner. At the subsequent reception some very happy speeches were made, Mr. A. Brooke-Smith proposing the bride and bridegroom, Mr. Kenneth Brand the bridesmaids, for whom Mr. David Brand replied, and Dr. R. J. Marshall Mr. Burkill. The bride's going-away dress was a fawn-coloured coat-frock.

THE death took place at the Pailun Hospital on Saturday evening of Dr. Samuel E. Chiu, one of the foremost Chinese western-trained physicians in Shanghai. Dr. Chiu graduated from St. John's University, Western Reserve University, Ohio, and from Harvard University Medical School, with degrees of Master of Arts and Doctor of Medicine. The funeral took place on Sunday afternoon.

minor parts Miss Petersen, speaking prettily, Mr. Weston, Mr. James, Mr. Landers, Mr. Berthelin (with good broken English) and Mr. Warrenner all played effectively.

The stage managing was in M. Lemiere's capable hands and he deserves much credit for his work. The management of so large a crowd is not easy, and the grouping was very well arranged. The A. D. C. were fortunate in securing the conductorship of Mr. Jack Raynes, and, except that we thought some of the songs should have gone more quickly, and the brass was sometimes too lusty, the music was very good.

FIREMEN'S AWFUL EXPERIENCE

Three Men Seriously Injured

At about 2.45 on Tuesday morning, the Hongkew Bell Tower reported a fire in the direction of Broadway and Dent Road and by the height of the flames it was feared that a tobacco factory was on fire.

The Fire Brigade immediately responded to the call and found that this was not the case but that the fire was much further down towards Wayside. A house in a large block between Baikal and Wayside Roads was in flames, and it was found that cotton was stored on the premises. Lines of hose were immediately laid on and the fire was tackled from all sides. The flames in the meantime were quickly spreading, and the roof now fell in. In view of the fact that cotton was stored and that the floors appeared to be badly overloaded, Chief Officer Pett deemed it advisable to use water sparingly, and the firemen were kept out of the building.

COLLAPSE OF A WALL.

Suddenly, without any warning, the gable wall fell and at the same time the whole of the cotton collapsed, forcing out the front portion of the building, the men who were working there being buried. To make matters worse electric wires running along the wall also fell, and there were flashes and the danger of shocks. The Central and the Hongkew Divisions at once concentrated on extricating their comrades from under the burning debris, and after about 20 minutes of hard work the firemen who were pinned down or buried, to the number of three, were rescued. The others had escaped, fortunately, with slight injuries.

At the time of the collapse, Staff-Sergeant-Major W. Rose, of the S. V. C., and Inspector O'Toole, Sergt. MacIntosh, and P. C. Thurgood, of the Wayside Police Station, were standing by and had very narrow escapes. They immediately assisted in the rescue, and did much splendid work in helping to get out the buried men.

Great care had to be taken during the rescue work to prevent a further collapse, and water was kept off the burning cotton except where there were men underneath. This portion was damped with spray nozzles, and the fire kept from reaching the men below.

Three houses were damaged, one which was used as the cotton godown, being totally destroyed.

THE CASUALTY LIST.

In view of the collapse referred to it was a wonder that there was no loss of life. Fireman Jackson was sent to the General Hospital with a fractured femur. Chinese firemen Nos. 41 and 152 to St. Luke's Hospital with a compound fracture of the leg and a fractured femur respectively, while six other Chinese firemen, suffering from cuts, wounds and bruises, were also taken to St. Luke's for treatment. These six, however, were afterwards able to return to their Stations.

PRESENTATION TO MR. H. G. SIMMS

At the Shanghai Club on Monday, Mr. H. G. Simms, who acted as Chairman of the Committee of the Club from 1914 until last year, when he resigned upon his departure for Home, was the recipient of a beautiful set of silver, suitably inscribed, as a token of the members' appreciation of his services.

Mr. R. G. MacDonald, the present Chairman, in making the presentation, referred to the fact that Mr. Simms first joined the Committee in 1911 and became Chairman in 1914, at a time when their financial resources were not in such a stable position as now. It was due to his chairmanship and clever guidance that the Club was to-day in its present prosperous state.

In reply, Mr. Simms said how grateful he was to the members of the Club for their kind appreciation of what he had done, and remarked that it was a great pleasure for him to return to Shanghai and renew acquaintance with the members. He was afraid that he was being given credit for the few things he had done; but no reference had been made to the things he had done that he ought not to have done or to the things he left undone that he ought to have done. He thanked the members most sincerely for the very handsome present they had made him and assured them that he would always look upon it as one of his most valued possessions, especially for the remembrance of old friendships and associations.

Paper Hunt Club Presentation

At the annual general meeting of the Shanghai Paper Hunt Club, held on Thursday at the Race Club, a silver salver was presented to Mr. E. S. B. Rowe to mark members' appreciation of his service to the Club in preparing an excellent map of the French country. The chairman, Mr. F. W. Potter, in making the presentation, spoke of the amount of work Mr. Rowe had put into the map, and said that such a gift to the Club was a most acceptable one.

The map will be reproduced on a small scale, and will thus be available for all members.

THE forgery of Bank of Chosen notes worth Y.100,000,000 by Russian Bolsheviks and Korean Reds in Siberia has been discovered by the Japanese authorities.

GEORGE Sinnecker, the German who made a name for himself in Shanghai during the war, was arrested by Det. Insp. Cruickshank at noon on Monday on a warrant issued by the Mixed Court at the instance of the Chinese authorities for failing to comply with the Enemy Subject Regulations. He was handed over to the Chapei Police.

LOSS OF THE HSINTAH

Small Hope of Any Salvage

It was reported on Sunday that the C. M. S. Hsintah, which went on the rocks near Chefoo on the night of the 7th instant, had foundered and sunk.

Inquiries at the China Merchants' local offices elicited the following details:

After it was learned that the ill-fated steamer had gone ashore messages were sent out to the Company's steamers Toonan and Hsin-fung ordering them to stand by and give necessary relief. The salvage boat St. Dominic from the Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co. was immediately despatched from Shanghai to the spot to see what could be done.

During the storm which took place last week, the waves kept on rolling and bumping the steamer against the rocks on which she had been resting, with the result that a large hole was knocked in her bottom. Water entered, and the ship soon settled down beneath the waves.

The passengers were transferred to the Hsin-fung, which arrived here on Sunday, but all the cargo was lost.

As the ship foundered about a mile inland from the regular steamer route, and as the larger boats, including the salvage boat, are unable to go near her for fear of the rocks, the Company is unable to state what her present condition is. There is, however, very little hope expressed by the Company for the saving of the vessel.

The Hsintah, which was one of the finest vessels in the service, was the latest addition to the China Merchants' fleet.

A STORMY POSITION.

The rescue and salvage tug St. Dominic returned to Shanghai at 1.30 p.m. on Wednesday from the wreck of the C. M. S. Hsintah after having experienced a strong northerly gale on her voyage north.

The Hsintah is sunk half a mile inside Ear Rocks, five miles north of the Southeast Promontory lighthouse in about four and a half to five fathoms of water, her decks being submerged even at low water, but no difficulty was experienced in going alongside the wreck, which can be approached with safety from the south.

If fine weather could be depended upon, salvage operations might be attended with success, but as the vessel is exposed from the north through east to south, and as strong northerly gales are frequent at this time of the year, any salvage operations undertaken would very likely cover a considerable period of time.

The St. Dominic returned with all men and salvage gear sent by the Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., but did not bring back the crew of the Hsintah, who are remaining at the lighthouse awaiting the arrival of a China Merchants' steamer to convey them to Shanghai.

WAR MEMORIAL FUND

The subscriptions received to date for the above Fund are as follow:—

Already acknowledged \$2,645.20.
Miss Ruth A. Harder \$10; H. J. S. Jones \$10; E. S. Wilkinson \$50; T. Hobden \$10; S. B. Neill \$50; C. E. Ellis \$50; E. M. Reid \$50; N. O. Laddell \$50; A. H. Leslie \$15; A. Nugent \$20; C. C. Knight \$50; J. H. McGregor \$20; E. E. Parsons \$25; A. E. S. Thompson \$50; W. A. L. Heygate \$50; Victory Memorial Picture started by Chinese \$10,000; A. L. John \$10; E. M. Ezra \$5.—Total \$13,145.20.

Already acknowledged Tls. 8,390.00.
A. Fergusson Tls. 250; Liddell Bros & Co. Tls. 500; W. McMurray Tls. 20; Scott, Harding & Co. Tls. 200; F. Ayscough Tls. 50; W. J. Denter Tls. 10; W. M. Carlson Tls. 50; F. J. Branch Tls. 20; Maitland Fearon & Brand Tls. 500; Maitland & Co. Tls. 500; G. Foster-Kemp Tls. 10; H. Browett Tls. 50; E. Payne Tls. 10; A. S. Malcolm Tls. 25; R. N. Gaskin Tls. 25; T. Toledani Tls. 250; Wm. Hughes Tls. 50; Shanghai Gas Co. Tls. 200; Caldbeck, McGregor & Co. Tls. 500; Caldbeck, McGregor & Co. Staff Tls. 39.77; G. Morris Tls. 100.—Total Tls. 11,749.77.

Timothy Richard Memorial Fund

Dr. D. MacGillivray, hon. treasurer of the Timothy Richard Memorial Fund, desires gratefully to acknowledge the following contributions:—

	\$	Tls.
Admiral Sah, Peking	100.00	
Minister of Interior	100.00	
Premier of China	100.00	
Salt Bank, Shanghai	50.00	
Rev. J. D. McRae, for Officials of Tsinanfu, Shantung	142.20	
5 Shansi Friends, per H. R. Williamson	80.00	
Miss Faithfull Davies	3.00	
Very Rev. Dean C. J. F. Symons, M.A.	20.00	
Mr. Ed. Wheen	50	
Mrs. Florence Ayscough	10	
Per J. A. B. Cook	400	
Previously acknowledged, Tls. 5,900 \$6,619 and £380.		

Blind Soldiers and Sailors

	\$	Tls.
Previously acknowledged	827.15	297.10
H. M. G.	£50	
	£50	827.15 297.10

ADMIRAL Lin Pao-yi, former Commander-in-chief of the Southern Navy and Administrative Director of the Military Government, arrived in Shanghai on Tuesday from Canton.

THE new Consul-General for the United States, Mr. William Holt-Gale, arrived in Hongkong on November 8. He has seen consular service at Puerto Plata, Malta, Athens, Colon, Munich and Copenhagen.

CORRESPONDENCE

CHINA IN LONDON.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In your leaderette under the above title in to-day's "N.-C. D. N." dealing with the West End theatre land you ask "What one would like to know out here is how far these plays are true to Chinese life and scenery."

It may interest you to know that Mr. Leon M. Lion spared no pains to have the Chinese reception room used in "The Chinese Puzzle" as true to Chinese life as possible. The Chinese Minister in London permitted him to copy the main reception room in the Chinese Legation which, although not purely Chinese, was Chinese enough for the purposes of the play. The Chinese Secretaries were freely consulted, and nearly all the Legation staff were at the dress rehearsal.

And yet with all the trouble taken there were two errors which, perhaps, only a resident of the Far East would notice. When the writer took down the clever sayings of Chin Loong he always commenced writing (?) Chinese from the bottom right hand corner; and when Chin Loong bade his guests farewell not once did he escort them to the door and "sung" them with true Oriental politeness.

Quite a different matter was the staging of "Shanghai" which was played at Drury Lane two years ago. The artist responsible for the scenery must have coupled pictures of Hongkong and the best bits of the Min River below Foochow, with a vivid imagination.

I am, etc.,

W. J. HAWKINGS.

Shanghai, Nov. 12.

THE TRADE IN CHILDREN.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—It is a remarkable but sad reflexion that a nation like China with her thousands of years of civilization and her republican form of government should tolerate the trade in children, which has been and is still carried on in the famine districts. Certainly distress, misery and unrelieved wretchedness may drive a man crazy and the poor seller ought not to be blamed. But the thing that strikes me most is that not only do the official authorities not object to such a trade, but even the well-to-do people regard the purchasing of young children from their poor parents as a benevolent act. Consequently, the keeper of the house of ill-fame and the actors of low standing under pretence of charity, travelling along the famine districts, invest their money by purchasing young children with little expense, so that they may make a profit in the future.

I was told that the market price of a male child is from two dollars to two and a half, while a female

child is in the eyes of traders more valuable, so that they would rather pay four dollars. What a monstrous market it is! What an inhuman transaction that is being carried on from day to day with these poor creatures.

Cannot the famine relief associations and other charitable institutions take this matter into consideration and put an end to it?

I am, etc.,

SARGENT.

Shanghai, Nov. 12.

THE LANGUAGE OF PARADISE.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—There are a few people in the East who read with interest and understanding your Scottish correspondent's letter of November 13, especially the paragraph headed "A Boom in Gaelic." He speaks of a Gaelic Mod at Oban as if every educated person would of course know the meaning of "Mod." It is the word for meeting with which compare old English Mote-thing. As one of the chief branches of Celtic speech, Gaelic has been studied by European scholars for philological purposes. Beyond that, it is dying out even in the Highlands save among the crofters who still cling to the soil and clachans.

Your correspondent casts doubt on the prophecy of an enthusiastic speaker that the Gaelic would ere long be on the same footing as Latin or Greek in the Scottish schools. Alas, even Greek is being cast out. The lack of a sufficiently large and varied literature will always militate against Gaelic as compared with the classics. Yet we know of least one who turns from Latin and Greek to the Gaelic Bible of his forebears as a delightful diversion, and not without spiritual profit also.

The story of the servant girl who could pick up a smattering of foreign tongues more quickly than her mistress is very probable. In the first place she likely knew enough of both Gaelic and English for ordinary purposes, and the bilingual can become more easily trilingual than the monolingual can become bilingual. This scientific principle was enunciated long ago by D'Arcy W. Thompson. He said that if you represent the first language acquired, say by five, then the next to be acquired will only show a difficulty of three, and so on from two to one—a fact which goes far to explain, for example, the extraordinary list of languages known to Elihu Burritt, the learned blacksmith.

We see the proof of this among Welsh and Scotch who come to China. Masters of two languages to begin with, they find no difficulty in adding a third, viz.—Chinese. Instances may occur to the reader. Most people's tongue is so deep down in one rut, viz.—English, that they find it hard to get out of it into Chinese sound and idiom. The Gaelic-English speaker's tongue is more supple, and used to moving out of one rut into another

as occasion calls. Hence it is easier for him to establish a third or a fourth language rut in the grey matter of his brain.

I am, etc.,

GILLIE.

Shanghai, Nov. 15.

WHAT IS A TALON?

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—As an amateur etymologist in trouble I appeal to you: I have often read an advertisement issued by the local Tramway Company in which the following words and wonderful words occur:—

the Bearer Receipts issued for Talons for new sheets of Coupons.

I wish to ask you, Sir, what is a Talon and why is it? I have turned to my old friend Webster and find:—

Talon.—The claw of a predacious bird or animal, especially the claw of a bird of prey.

One of certain small prominences on the hind part of the face of an elephant's tooth.

A kind of molding, concave at the bottom and convex at the top:—usually called an ogee.

Now, Sir, I have travelled in our trams and have noted the predatory bird of prey who collects the fares; I would sooner enter a tram than an elephant's mouth and so have failed to investigate the hind part of the face of his teeth; I have entered a tram convex at one end and concave at the other and emerged with the order reversed; having escaped from the melting pot of patchwork humanity. I have even exclaimed Ogee! But still I ask you, what is a Talon? Can you help me?

I am, etc.,

STRAPHANGER.

Shanghai, Nov. 13.

*. An answer to the above will be found in Notes and Comments.—Ed.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—May I submit that your declining to furnish "Straphanger" with the etymology of "Talon" savours of "protesting too much?" The word is simply the French word "talon" signifying "counterfoil," "stub," etc. Pardon my "butting" in, on so simple a point. Jupiter slumbered and overlooked the obvious.

I am, etc.,

BOOKWORM.

Shanghai, Nov. 16.

THE BELLE OF NEW YORK.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Following upon a visit to last night's performance of the "Belle of New York" I write to inquire why it would appear necessary for the local Press to eulogize a performance which is obviously mediocre, if not actually bad. I maintain that an honest and

genuine criticism of such performances would tend to raise the standard of amateur productions.

For the information of others disagreeing with my apparent harsh verdict, I submit the following views:—

- (a) In the comedy (!) itself the wit is non-existent, and the humour elementary,
- (b) The music lacks charm,
- (c) The scenery proved disappointing and ineffectual.
- (d) The artistes. With the exception of four, whose work prevented the piece from proving a fiasco and whose talent might well have been requisitioned in a better cause, they failed sufficiently to submerge their identities in the part assigned to them.

"Du reste," the make-up of the "supers" proclaimed aloud its amateur origin; the words of the majority of the performers were inaudible or badly delivered, and various details, so vital to the success of a performance as a whole, were lamentably neglected.

The entire performance, in fact, appeared to me in the light of a dress parade, camouflaged by a veneer of histrionic art.

Had the proceeds of the piece been devoted to charity this letter would not have been written, but the performance is offered to the community as an example of local talent and management, and, as such, should not I feel be commended.

I am, etc.,

SPADE.

Shanghai, Nov. 18.

*. A reply to the foregoing will be found in Notes and Comments.—Ed.

OBSTRUCTED STREETS.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I wish to ask a question about which I am not in very great doubt, but still I would like to have your answer, and incidentally at the same time bring to public notice a very great nuisance.

Is it not an order of the Municipal Council that no ladders, steps or other obstructions may be placed on the sidewalks after 7 a.m.?

If so, can you please tell me why it is, that every morning at or about 9 a.m. there are ladders outside many stores on Nanking Road between Szechuen Road and Kiangse Road obstructing passers-by, and necessitating pedestrians stepping off the side-walk into the road, only because Chinese coolies clean windows at an hour when all self-respecting stores should have cleaned their windows, and forgotten them.

Trusting that if you cannot tell me whether there is an order to that effect or, if not, that some of your readers can, and enclosing my card.

I am, etc.

"ONE WHO OBJECTS TO MAKING
WAY FOR COOLIES."

Shanghai, Nov. 17.

COMPANY MEETING

ORIENTAL COTTON CO.

Share Capital Re-arranged

An extraordinary general meeting of the Oriental Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd., was held last Friday afternoon at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Arnhold Brothers & Co., for the purpose of considering the following resolution:

"That each of the Tls. 30 ordinary shares in the company's capital be divided into 10 shares of Tls. 3 each."

Mr. H. E. Arnhold presided, supported by Messrs. W. S. Jackson, F. C. Butcher, and A. J. Welch, the attendance representing 3,949 shares.

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The Chairman said: Gentlemen:

—At the request of some shareholders, the General Managers approached the Board of Directors with a view to having the Articles of Association of the Company altered so that the existing shares of Tls. 30 each could be subdivided into shares of smaller denomination.

After carefully considering the matter, your Directors have authorized the calling of this meeting, as they consider that the suggested step would be of advantage to the Company. Previous records show that when our shares were of comparatively small denomination most of our yarn dealers were shareholders in the Company, but the present high market value of the shares only permits two or three of our most wealthy friends to be interested.

It is obviously in the interests of the Company that our shares should be within the reach of all who deal in our yarn, so that they are directly interested in promoting the sale of our products. It is with this object in view that the subdivision of the shares is asked for and that your Board recommend the resolution to your consideration.

There were no questions, and the resolution was unanimously carried, on the proposal of Mr. F. C. Butcher, seconded by Mr. E. O. Cumming.

The Chairman announced that the confirmatory meeting will be held on the 29th instant.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

SHANGHAI JUNIOR GOLF CLUB

The annual general meeting of the Shanghai Junior Golf Club was held in the Club House on Tuesday evening, there being present a record attendance.

The chairman, Mr. F. Lloyd, in his address, laid special emphasis on the difficulties now confronting

golfers in the Hongkew Park and to the Municipal Council's action in curtailing playing hours.

Officers were then elected for the ensuing year. These were:—Mr. Alex. Braid, captain; Mr. J. Richards, vice-captain; Mr. W. S. Featherstonhaugh, hon. secretary; Messrs. A. S. Allan, B. Anderton, P. B. Critchley, F. Lloyd, E. Noakes, J. Ross Young, and W. R. Kinipple, general committee; Messrs. J. G. Adams, P. W. Ephgrave, F. Gates, F. George, A. E. Hayward, J. J. Marshgreen, G. Manwaring, P. H. Robinson, A. Taylor, and F. B. Walker, balloting committee.

Following the elections there was some discussion into the Club's affairs. After a vote of thanks had been accorded to the retiring committee a beautiful gold watch was presented to Mr. A. Braid, the retiring Hon. Secretary, to whom the Club owes much of its present success.

SHANGHAI FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

An extraordinary meeting of the Shanghai Football Association was held at the Cathedral School, Kiukiang Road, on Wednesday and attracted a larger attendance of Association football enthusiasts than has been the case since the Association was first organized.

Mr. E. P. Graham Barrow stated that the meeting was necessarily informal, and had been called by him, in the unavoidable absence of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. C. G. Clifford, in order that an early start might be made with the League games.

Mr. A. J. Stewart was elected chairman of the meeting, and Mr. E. P. Graham Barrow Hon. Secretary, by unanimous vote.

The next business before the meeting was to ascertain what

teams would enter the first and second divisions of the League, and the following entries were received:—

First Division:—Shanghai Football Club, Shanghai Recreation Club, St. Xavier's F. C., and S. M. Police F. C.

Second Division:—Shanghai Football Club, Shanghai Recreation Club, St. Xavier's F. C., S. M. Police F. C., The Navy, Customs F. C., B.-A. T. F. C., Jewish Recreation Club, International Football Club, Rangers F. C., Shanghai Public School, Waterworks Club, Electricity Department Club.

A proposal was made and carried that the League matches should begin on Saturday, the 20th instant, and, in an ensuing discussion as to the number of grounds available for football, it was resolved that the Hon. Secretary should write to the Trustees of the Public Recreation Ground to ask that the Polo Ground should be available for football as well as for hockey.

It was decided that a meeting of the representatives of the Clubs entered for the League and other Clubs that intended to take part in Association football as members of the Association should meet together at the conclusion of the general meeting to arrange fixtures.

The subject of referees was then discussed and on names being asked for it was found that no fewer than 17 were put forward. These were: Messrs. A. R. C. Fulton, H. F. Landers, W. E. Wilson, G. B. Stormes, A. R. Youngson, H. G. Boyling, Johnson, R. R. Jones, F. J. Gabbutt, C. R. S. Cooper, Strutt, W. T. Bissett, C. Thompson, Capt. E. I. M. Barrett, E. G. Barnes, W. S. Campbell and W. Hampson.

After an informal discussion of the rules as to registration and transfer, the proposal that an official meeting to discuss the rules be held as soon as possible was carried by acclamation.

SPORT

SHANGHAI AUTUMN RACE MEETING

CHAIRMAN:—Mr. W. S. Jackson.
JUDGE:—Mr. C. G. S. Mackie.
ASSISTANT JUDGE:—Mr. F. W. Potter.

STEWARDS IN CHARGE OF SCALES:—Messrs. W. S. Jackson, A. W. Burkill and H. E. Arnhold.

STEWARDS IN CHARGE OF TELEGRAPHS AND NUMBERS:—Messrs. W. L. Merriman and G. H. Stitt.

STEWARDS IN CHARGE OF PARIMUTUELS, etc.:—Messrs. H. H. Read and W. L. Merriman.

STARTER:—Mr. W. B. O. Middleton.

ASSISTANT STARTER:—Mr. I. Tuxford.

TIMEKEEPER:—Mr. W. G. Pirie.

HANDICAPPER:—Mr. F. Milner.

CLERK OF THE COURSE:—Mr. S. W. Pratt.

SECRETARY:—Mr. A. W. Olsen.

FOURTH DAY,

Saturday, November 13, 1920.

The fourth day's races took place in gloriously fine weather and the lawns and stands of the Race Club were again crowded with spectators. There was an excellent programme of racing, the two outstanding events being the Autumn Handicap and the Grand National Steeplechase, and the fact that six of the nine events were over a distance of one mile and a quarter enabled spectators to witness both the start and finish in front of the lawn. For the flat races the fields were again very large, with the exception of that for the Manchu Stakes, in which there were only four starters.

Details of the racing are as follows:—

1.—THE SUB-GRIFFINS HANDICAP.—A handicap for all Subscription Griffins that have started in at least two races at this Meeting.—One mile and a quarter.

Messrs. Cox and Stitt's dun Striped Tiger (Mr. Dalgliesh)	152—1
Messrs. Toeg and Lalaca's dun Nyanza (Mr. Ezra)	155—2
Mr. Robson's grey The Mystery Bird (Mr. Braid)	162—3
Also ran:—The Kite (Mr. Moller), Devonport (Mr. Heard), Airshot (Mr. Hitch), No Trumps (Mr. Corke), Backstay II (Mr. de Zutter), Savernake (Mr. McBain), Dunluce (Mr. Bremner), Pan (Mr. Bauld), Shanghai Dahlia (Mr. Vida), Golder Orb (Mr. Sleep), Manila Chief (Mr. Hill), Saigon Chief (Mr. White), Sweet William (Mr. Hind), Peckham Rye (Mr. Dalgarno), Ypres (Mr. Morris).	

Won by two lengths; a length between second and third. Time:—2 min. 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ sec.

2.—THE AUTUMN HANDICAP.—A handicap for all ponies that have started in at least two races at this Meeting.—One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Campox's bay Old Bill (Mr. Bremner)	149—1
Messrs. Winsome and Hasty's grey The Heron (Mr. Hill)	155—2
Mr. Jeroni's roan Tatouillard (Mr. Moller)	161—3

PAY BY CHECK

\$1 opens a Savings Account
\$100 opens a Checking Account

CURRENT ACCOUNTS

TAELS

MEXICAN DOLLARS

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

TAELS

MEXICAN DOLLARS

STERLING

AMERICAN GOLD

FIXED DEPOSITS

TAELS

MEXICAN DOLLARS

STERLING

AMERICAN GOLD

The American-Oriental Banking Corporation

15 NANKING ROAD, SHANGHAI

OVER 5,400 ACCOUNTS

Also ran:—The Hornbill (Mr. Harper), Fighting King (Mr. Vida), Churchill (Mr. Ezra), Sidelight (Mr. Bauld), Father Confessor (Mr. Knight), Co-insurance (Mr. Sleep), Guldberg (Mr. Crokam), Hallow E'er (Mr. Heard), King's Cross (Mr. Dalglish), The Dandy Bird (Mr. Brand), Saucy Thing (Mr. Hitch), Rupee Bill (Mr. White), Bachelor Tax (Mr. Sweeting).

Won by half a length; a head between second and third. Time:—2 min. 36 sec.

3.—THE GRIFFINS HANDICAP.—A handicap for all Griffins that have started in at least two races at this Meeting.—One mile and a quarter.

lb.
Mr. J. F. Macgregor's dun Strathfarrar (Mr. Bremner) 150—1
„ Fash's brown Hayley (Mr. Dalglish) 146—2
„ William McBain's roar. Struma (Mr. Vida) 165—3

Also ran:—Clydebank (Mr. Sleep), Donro (Mr. Ezra), Doiran (Mr. Hill), Waterlight (Mr. Crokam), Safetvlight (Mr. Moller), The Chuk Bird (Mr. Hind), The Lightning Bird (Mr. Brand), Hopeful Thing (Mr. White).

Won by half a length; a similar distance between second and third. Time:—2 min. 45 $\frac{2}{3}$ sec.

4.—THE GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE.—For China ponies. Over Morriss's water jump, twice round and in.

lb.
Mr. Henry Morriss's brown Petorsfield (Mr. Morriss) 164—1
„ H. Herlofson's grey Medina Sidonia (Mr. Bremner) 148—2
„ Bonar's grey Battle Axe (Mr. Sweeting) 148—3

Also ran:—Marlow (Mr. Wakelam), Springie (Mr. Hayes), The Prelate (Mr. Rowe).

Won by three lengths; a similar distance between second and third.

5.—THE CONSOLATION CUP.—For China ponies that have started twice at this Meeting, in races of three-quarters of a mile or over, and that have not won a race at this Meeting.—One mile and a quarter.

lb.
Mr. Renniks's grey Rouble (Mr. Sleep) 152—1
„ Nugget's bay Pilgrim (Mr. Hind) 155—2
„ Fash's black Nigger Minstral (Mr. Dalglish) 153—3

Also ran:—Scesaplana (Mr. Sarper), Siwa (Mr. Eastwood), Triumph (Mr. Ezra), Sidelight (Mr. Bauld), The Camel (Mr. Wingrove), Mazurek (Mr. Heard), Seabird (Mr. Brand), Exchequer Bill (Mr. White).

Won by half a length; a neck between second and third.—Time:—2 min. 40 $\frac{2}{3}$ sec.

6.—THE MANCHU STAKES.—For China ponies Griffins of this Meeting that have started twice in races of three-quarters of a mile or over and that have not won a race.—One mile and a quarter.

lb.
Mr. J. F. Macgregor's ches. Strathcarron (Mr. Bremner) 153—1
„ Robson's grey Can-do (Mr. Brand) 155—2
„ Cire's black Stormlight (Mr. Moller) 152—3
Also ran:—Magregeor Mohr (Mr. Liddell).

Won by three lengths; a length and a half between second and third. Time:—2 min. 45 $\frac{1}{3}$ sec.

7.—THE NIL DESPERANDUM CUP.—For China ponies that have started twice at this Meeting in races of three-quarters of a mile or over and that have not won a race at this Meeting.—Five furlongs.

lb.
Messrs. C. Mackie and G. H. Wright's black Jet (Mr. Hill) 160—1
Mr. Fash's ches. Redskin (Mr. Dalglish) 160—2
„ Haycam's brown Inveravon (Mr. Crokam) 152—3

Also ran:—Moonlighter (Mr. de Zutter), Colombo (Mr. Dalgarno), The Hornbill (Mr. Knight), Wild Escapade (Mr. Hayes), Charing Cross (Mr. Morriss), Penvere (Mr. Wingrove), Cadzow's Glen (Mr. Sleep), Granite (Mr. Liddell), Greyhound (Mr. Corke), Victoria (Mr. White), Soft Thing (Mr. Eastwood), Play Thing (Mr. Bremner), Climax (Mr. Heard), Iron Duke (Mr. Ezra), Toc Emma (Mr. Moller), Father John (Mr. Hind), White Fox (Mr. Hitch), Nights of Old (Mr. Rowe).

Won by a length; half a length between second and third. Time:—1 min. 42 $\frac{2}{3}$ sec.

8.—THE GRIFFINS NIL DESPERANDUM CUP.—For Griffins and Subscription Griffins of this Meeting that have started twice in races of three-quarters of a mile or over and that have not won a race.—Five furlongs.

lb.
Messrs. Toeg and Gubbay's grey Grey (Mr. Heard) 158—1
„ Sparke and Tibbey's dun Wild Plunge (Mr. Hill) 150—2
Mr. M. Speelman's dun Edam (Mr. Dalgarno) 154—3

Also ran:—Eclipse (Mr. Harper), Canasson (Mr. Crokam), Backstay (Mr. de Zutter), Doldzeli (Mr. Brand), Bantry Bay (Mr. Wingrove), Job's Comfort (Mr. Hind), Little Tich (Mr. Dalglish), Shekel (Mr. Sleep), As Usual (Mr. Knight), Girond'n (Mr. Berthel'n), One-of-Those (Mr. McBain), Maconachi's (Mr. Bremner), Rifraf (Mr. Morr's), Hopeful Thing (Mr. White), Same-old-Thing (Mr. Corke), Tiny Tim (Mr. Ezra), Ramleh (Mr. Toeg), Redwing (Mr. Bauld), Bachelor Gay (Mr. Eastwood), Bakken (Mr. Hitch).

Won by four lengths; a head between second and third. Time:—1 min. 51 $\frac{1}{3}$ sec.

9.—THE MAFOOS RACE.—For all China ponies that have started at least twice at this Meeting and that have not won a race at this Meeting.—One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Silex's bay Scesaplana 1
Messrs. Sky and Hickling's bay Wellington 2
„ Fay and Seth's grey The Ameer 3
Also ran:—Dusty Miller, Rupee Bill, Sir Lamerock, The Camel, Abonkir, Stormlight, The Farmer, and Wild Shot.

Won by two lengths; three-quarters of a length between second and third. Time:—2 min. 40 sec.

Summary of Results

The following were the most successful owners, jockeys and ponies:

OWNERS.	1st	2nd	3rd
Messrs. Winsome & Hasty	5	2	3
Mr. Robson	3	2	3
Mr. J. F. Macgregor	3	1	2
Messrs. Toeg & Gubbay	3	1	1
Mr. Hy. Morriss	2	0	2
Mr. John Peel	2	1	0
Mrs. Isabel Moller	2	0	0
Mr. Campox	2	0	0
Messrs. Potts & Hayim	1	2	0
Messrs. Toeg & Lalacaca	1	2	0
Messrs. Cox & Stitt	1	1	2
Mr. Jeromi	1	1	2
Mr. Cire	1	1	1
Mr. Wm. McBain	1	1	1
Messrs. Stephen & Burkill	1	1	1
Messrs. Mackie & Wright	1	1	0
Mr. Rennick	1	1	0

	1st	2nd	3rd
Mr. Silex	1	0	1
Mr. Risk	1	0	1
Messrs. C. & H. White	1	0	1
Mr. Elkayem	1	0	1
Mr. N. L. Sparke	1	0	0
Mr. Bahncchild	1	0	0
Mr. Knight	1	0	0
Mr. Wakelam	1	0	0
Mr. Fash	0	3	1
Messrs. Sky & Hickling	0	2	1
Mr. Nuggett	0	2	0
Sir E. Kadoorie	0	2	0
Sir P. Chater	0	1	2
Messrs. Brand Bros.	0	1	2
Mr. L. Straetmans	0	1	1
Messrs. Fay & Seth	0	1	1
Mr. McBain	0	1	0
Mr. Belinda	0	1	0
Messrs. Harry & Joe	0	1	0
Messrs. Gubbay & Hickling	0	1	0
Mr. H. Herlofson	0	1	0
Messrs. Sparke & Tibbey	0	1	0
Mr. Bonar	0	0	1
Mr. F. S. Gibbings	0	0	1
Mr. St. Andrew	0	0	1
Miss Florence Ezra	0	0	1
Mr. Haycam	0	0	1
Mr. Jordan	0	0	1
Captain Bahnsen	0	0	1
Mr. P. W. Massey	0	0	1
Mr. M. Speelman	0	0	1

JOCKEYS.

	1st	2nd	3rd
Mr. Hill	6	3	4
Mr. Bremner	6	3	5
Mr. Dalglish	4	5	3
Mr. Brand	3	3	4
Mr. Ezra	3	3	1
Mr. Johnstone	3	2	1
Mr. Moller	3	1	3
Mr. Crokam	2	2	3
Mr. Heard	1	4	1
Mr. Vida	1	3	3
Mr. Stewart	1	1	3
Mr. White	1	1	1
Mr. Sleep	1	1	1
Mr. Morriss	1	0	0
Mr. Hitch	1	0	0
Mr. Knight	1	0	0
Mr. Hind	0	3	0
Mr. Wingrove	0	1	1
Mr. Dalgarno	0	0	2
Mr. Harper	0	0	1
Mr. Eastwood	0	0	1
Mr. Liddell	0	0	1
Mr. Sweeting	0	0	1
Mr. Rowe	0	0	1

PONIES.

	1st	2nd	3rd
Strathfarrar	2	0	1
The Hawk	2	0	0
Old Bill	2	0	0
Douro	2	0	0
Safetvlight	2	0	0
Fighting King	1	2	0
Nyanza	1	2	0
Tatouillard	1	1	2
Striped Tiger	1	1	2
The Heron	1	1	1
Strathcarron	1	1	1
Struma	1	1	1
The Mystery Bird	1	1	1
Silver Streak	1	1	0
Bydand	1	1	0
Jet	1	1	0
Scesaplana	1	1	0
Waterlight	1	1	0
Rouble	1	0	1
Co-insurance	1	0	1
Dunluce	1	0	1
Niblick	1	0	0
The Eagle	1	0	0
The Kite	1	0	0
Petersfield	1	0	0
The Dandy Bird	1	0	0
Colinton	1	0	0
High Tide	1	0	0
Marlow	1	0	0
Tivoli	1	0	0
Father Confessor	1	0	0
Setchfield	1	0	0
Grey	1	0	0
Kings Cross	1	0	0
Redskin	0	2	0
Hongkong Chief	0	2	0
Shanghai Dahlia	0	1	2

	1st	2nd	3rd
Canasson	0	1	1
The Curlew	0	1	1
Doiran	0	1	1
Mazurek	0	1	1
The Ameer	0	1	1
Can-do	0	1	1
Hayley	0	1	0
Medina-Sidonia	0	1	0
Pilgrim	0	1	0
Wild Plunge	0	1	0
Wellington	0	1	0
Father John	0	1	0
Golden Orb	0	1	0
Devenport	0	1	0
Play Thing	0	1	0
Churchill	0	1	0
Rupe Bill	0	1	0
Pennyfield	0	0	2
The Oriole	0	0	1
Bantry Bay	0	0	1
Tiny Tim	0	0	1
Tichfield	0	0	1
Peckham Rye	0	0	1
Battle Axe	0	0	1
Edam	0	0	1
Penvere	0	0	1
Seabird	0	0	1
Guldborg	0	0	1
Triumph	0	0	1
Doldzeli	0	0	1
Victoria	0	0	1
Siwa	0	0	1
Nights of Old	0	0	1
Nigger Minstrel	0	0	1
Stormlight	0	0	1

THE GOLF CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Play in Semi-Finals

The semi-final round of the Shanghai Golf Club championship was played off at Kiangwan on Sunday in excellent weather. A fairly strong wind was blowing, making play difficult at a number of holes, such as the second where it was across the course and the 15th where it was dead astern. Otherwise the conditions were excellent. The results were as follows:—

J. B. Ferrier beat J. Oswald, 13 and 12.

R. Marr Johnson beat J. S. McEachran, 8 and 7.

FERRIER AND OSWALD.

Considering the excellence of his performances hitherto Oswald was distinctly disappointing. He started by putting his first two shots out of bounds and his third in the bunker, and this was typical of his play during the first nine holes. He seemed always to be getting off the course with his drives and brassies, a fatal thing to do against a player of the calibre of Ferrier. As a consequence of this failing of his Oswald found himself seven down in the first nine holes. He improved thereafter, but the handicap was too much and ruined his chances.

In the second nine holes he was very nearly able to hold his own with Ferrier, losing only one more hole. This made him eight down in the morning, and left him little chance of retrieving his fortunes in the afternoon.

In the afternoon Oswald had consistent bad luck on the greens, and the match came to an end on the sixth green with Ferrier 13 up.

MARR JOHNSON AND McEACHRAN.

Col. Marr Johnson had been on the sick list for several days prior to yesterday, but in spite of this he put up an excellent game and registered a good win. McEachran likewise had not been in the best of form, and it told on his game. His driving to start with was erratic and he was topping badly, while the long run up shot which he usually plays so well was not quite coming off. He seemed to have difficulty in finding his length, and more often than not was short. On the other hand Marr Johnson was getting a long ball, and his approach work was excellent.

The feature of the match was the opportunity it gave of contrasting the two schools of approach work. McEachran plays the low running shot so much favoured in Scotland, while Marr Johnson goes in for loft and under-cut, and on a day like this his style probably paid. It was a difficult piece of work to pitch on the 15th green and stay there, considering the force of the wind behind the ball, but this he was able to do.

At the end of the first 18 holes Marr Johnson was 4 up. He had played admirably steady golf, while McEachran usually found himself short in his approaches. In the afternoon also McEachran's putting fell away considerably, and Marr Johnson, keeping up a sound game, brought the match to a conclusion at the 11th green, winning by 8 and 7.

INTERPORT CRICKET

Hongkong v. Shanghai

The third match in the Interport tournament at Hongkong—between Shanghai and Singapore—was played on the 12th and 13th instant and resulted in an easy victory for Shanghai by an innings and 132 runs.

Shanghai batted first and compiled a total of 324 runs. D. W. Leach was highest scorer, with 85; F. L. Wainwright hit out well in the later stages of the innings, scoring 80, and Dr. H. H. Morris made a useful 49.

Singapore then opened their innings, but made a poor start, losing four wickets for 50 runs. On the second day Singapore continued their innings and were all out for 117 (A. E. Holmes-Brown, not out 31). Singapore were thus obliged to follow on, and in their second venture fared even worse than in the first. Losing six wickets for 42 runs before tiffin, they were afterwards all out for 68.

Hongkong v. The Rest.

The same afternoon a match was begun between the Hongkong XI and a combined team of the visitors, and before stumps were drawn the visitors had compiled 241 for the loss of eight wickets. The match was continued on Monday when Hongkong hit up 286 runs for six wickets, (T. E. Pearce, not out 111), thus winning by four wickets and 52 runs.

INTERPORT LAWN TENNIS

Hongkong v. Shanghai

During the Interport cricket fortnight at Hongkong an Interport lawn tennis match was played between Hongkong and Shanghai, with the following results:—

In the doubles, Messrs. W. S. A. Pott and H. B. Ollerdersen (Shanghai) beat Messrs. Yvanovitch and Lo (Hongkong), 3-6, 6-2, 6-4, 6-4; Messrs. Ng Sze-kwong and W. Lockwei (Hongkong) defeated Messrs. Pott and Ollerdersen (Shanghai), 3-6, 6-4, 2-6, 6-0, 7-5; and Messrs. J. Tanaka and J. Carnavarro (Shanghai) beat Messrs. Lo and Yvanovitch (Hongkong), 7-5, 6-1, 6-4.

In the singles, Mr. M. W. Lo (Hongkong) beat Mr. W. S. A. Pott (Shanghai), 6-3, 6-3, 6-2; Mr. Ng Sze-kwong (Hongkong) beat Mr. Pott (Shanghai), 6-1, 6-2, 6-3; and Mr. Tanaka (Shanghai) beat Mr. Lo (Hongkong), 10-8, 0-6, 6-4, 6-4.

U. S. DAVIS CUP TEAM

Possible Visit to Shanghai

New York, Nov. 11.

The American Davis Cup team will sail from Vancouver for Auckland to-morrow, and after the Davis Cup tie will tour Australia, finishing at Sydney on January 29. The route of their return journey has not yet been settled, but it is stated that they are expected back in the United States in March. They may possibly return homeward via Shanghai and Singapore in view of invitations to play at these places.—Reuter.

The M.C.C. Team in Australia

London, Nov. 12.

Two of the M. C. C. bowlers in Australia are laid up. Waddington has been advised to undergo an operation on account of abscesses, while Hitch has split the forefinger of his right hand in practising, and will be incapacitated for a fortnight.—Reuter.

International Football

London, Nov. 13.

The amateur international football match, played at Belfast between England and Ireland, resulted in a win for England 4 goals to nil.—Reuter.

Canadian Boxer's Victory

Minneapolis, Nov. 13.

Clonie Tait, lightweight champion of Canada, knocked out Lew Edwards in the second round of a 10-round bout here.—Reuter.

Carpentier Confident

Paris, Nov. 14.

Carpentier expresses confidence that he will triumph over Dempsey. "I believe," he said, "that the match will not last more than eight rounds."—French Wireless.

Special Articles

WHAT IS SALVATION?

Notes of a sermon preached by the Rev. C. E. Darwent in Union Church, Tientsin, Sunday evening, November 7. Text. I. Timothy II. 3 and 4. "This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; who willeth that all men shall be saved, and come to a knowledge of the truth."

I know no more beautiful collection of words than this. That God, the Eternal, Who made this marvellous universe, Whose mysteries baffle all our scientific societies, has something that He is more interested in than the universe, namely men, you and me, is surely the greatest marvel of all. That He has good will towards us, and is always willing for us a great and wonderful thing is indeed something to glory in. Nobody is what we call "a nobody" if this is true, as we believe it is. The thing that He wills us to have, if we will, is called by Paul, salvation. And it is this, that I want to speak about to-night. What do we think about salvation to-day? Do we believe we need it? Is it such a great thing after all? That is what people ask, Is Christianity a salvation?

THE UNATTAINABLE THE DESIRED.

Now I propose to begin by remarking on a permanent feature of human nature, that has been observed in every age. It is, that man seems always to be anxious to get hold of a thing he has not got, and on the other hand, man is apt to think very little of a great thing, when once he has obtained possession of it. We are all like that. The poet Goethe was an example of it. He was eaten up with ambition to be a painter. No doubt he was envious of the glory of men like Rafael. One would have thought he would have been content to be one of the great poets of the world. I suppose the really great poets, those in absolutely the first flight, are Homer, the Greek; Virgil, the Roman; Dante the Italian; Shakespeare and Milton, the Englishmen. I should place Goethe sixth. One would think he would have been satisfied with such a gift; but no; he wanted something he had not got. We are all alike. Those of us who are not musical, and so are useless at a party, would give all our gifts, such as they are, to be as musical as some of our friends. It is always so. Artists from countries that have no mountains go to Switzerland to paint mountains; yet I cannot recall the name of a single famous Swiss artist. It does look, as if those, who have mountains before their eyes all the time, think little of them.

MODERN AND ANCIENT.

And it looks as if that were just the case with salvation, that those

who know it pay little attention to it, while those who do not know anything of what Christianity teaches is the real thing are yearning for it. "Man never is, but always to be blessed." Let us take a modern and an ancient parallel. Consider first ourselves, the people of this generation. We are by universal consent in a moral, social, and spiritual mess. No one denies that Statesmen, social reformers, editors, conferences, societies of innumerable miscellaneous charities; everybody who imagines himself anybody, with a scheme in his head, is concerned at the state of the world. We are told that "we are not out of the wood," though the war has been finished, as we are reminded for two years; and all the publicly spirited people are frantically hunting round for some power or principle to get the world out of the wood, to bring it back to sanity and moral health. Yet you notice that none of them, outside the church, ever dream of recommending the stricken world to try the religion that the late belligerent nations profess, the Gospel of Christ, which calls itself salvation. Any played-out theory of socialism, or economic readjustment is recommended, but not the thing that we are supposed to believe Jesus Christ came to give, salvation. But it is not only in regard to public matters, that this is true. I often think, that there is a bias against it. Do people ever wonder nowadays whether they are saved? There is the famous story of the late Professor Huxley. He was taking a holiday at Llandudno, I think it was, and one day someone on the Parade gave him a tract, that asked him whether he was saved. He wrote a furious letter to one of the papers, denouncing it as an outrage that he should have been asked such a question. What a pity, is it not, that great scientific men are not labelled, "Superior quality"? So it is. How many people ever worry themselves about this thing called salvation? There is a case of men having the Gospel, and not caring anything about it, not valuing it; that is ourselves.

THE ROMAN EMPIRE'S NEED.

We will now take a case of the opposite kind, people who had not it, and yet wanted it badly. You may be surprised to hear, that I refer to the ancient Roman Empire. It was, as we say, dying for salvation. You will probably say, but did not the Empire persecute the Christians? It did. But that was not because it didn't want salvation; but because salvation was offered it by the church in what appeared to the Romans a ridiculous form, in that of faith in

a crucified Jew. But salvation, the whole empire knew that it needed very badly. It knew that the life of the masses of men was rotten. It felt that clever and wise men had done all they could, and in vain. Men felt that unless in some way heaven intervened and did something, the world would die of moral putridity. Here is what Finlay, one of the most eminent Scottish historians says about it; "A vast terror was felt by the emperor, the senate, the army". If you have ever felt an earthquake shock, you know what a "vast terror" is. He says further, "The Romans were sensible that their social vices threatened the empire with ruin. They did what they could to avert the impending ruin. The emperor Decius appointed a censor of morals, as our government appointed a food-controller." And Finlay has this most significant sentence: "A moral rule with a religious sanction was a want Society began to feel when Christianity arrived to supply it." Heaven must bring help, or they would be lost. There is no greater authority on the Roman world, than Professor Ramsey of Aberdeen. He has been a great explorer of buried sites of ancient cities, and he says, "The explorer is impressed by the number of offerings and dedications beseeching salvation (*soteria*); he says the 'feeling had grown strong that relief from the general strife and cruelty could never be attained by ordinary human means.' Unless heaven saved them, they were lost.

TO SAVE THE WORLD.

Christianity gives itself out as salvation. The name Jesus bears is that of Saviour; He "came to seek and save the lost"; He says "I came not to judge the world but to save the world." Christianity is a good many things; indeed it is everything. It is a revelation of God and a moral law, and all the rest, that its critics and would-be improvers say it is. But first of all it is *salvation*, according to its author, who ought to know all about it. Salvation was what the Romans needed, and they took to the Gospel, and made it the religion of their empire. And surely, they were right, when we come to think what salvation is.

Let us ask what it is, and I think, we shall see that of all the tragedies of the present time, the most terribly suicidal is the light and airy way, in which the present generation treats salvation. What then is it? The word "save" is in general use. It absolutely always means one thing, and one thing only that *something is very seriously wrong*, and something must be done at once to remedy it. Take "The Concise Oxford Dictionary." Its definition of "save" is, "to rescue, to deliver

from danger or misfortune, to provide a way out of difficulty." Take it in the favourite world of sport. In cricket a side that has done badly has to "follow on." When the last men go in the captain says to them, "save the follow-on; get ten runs." They have to save the side from disaster. Take football. When a goalkeeper stops the ball, the papers say, "So-and-so made a brilliant save." There you have it again. Life-belts and similar apparatus are called life-saving apparatus. There is always the same meaning, to avert disaster. A drowning man has no bias against the use of the word, such as so many people have in reference to their souls: he shouts out fast enough "save me." And no one thinks him old fashioned, out-of-date. He is in deadly peril. And there is this further in the idea of the word "save"; *immediateness*. A drowning man cannot wait six weeks while you make up your mind to do something. He wants help *now*. The danger is pressing. You don't say that when a boy is learning to swim he is saving his life. No doubt it may some day save his life, but you don't use the word "save." You reserve it for a crisis, when he may be drowning, before he has learnt to swim. There is always the idea of impending, or immanent disaster in it.

THE NEED URGENT.

Yes, and that is just what the Gospel takes for granted. The need is urgent. Mankind has fallen under the dominion of a frightful power, which it calls sin. It has to have some name. The Romans knew it; we all know it. The call for "saving" always implies that something has gone wrong with the organism, or society, or nation, or individual, that calls to be saved.

And who in his senses can doubt, that something has gone grievously wrong with mankind? Those old Romans were not, what I have heard called "bigoted and ignorant Evangelicals." Their views on religion had the quality, which is so admired to-day, namely breadth; yet they had no doubt, that there was something wrong with the moral and spiritual nature of mankind so fatal, that unless heaven did something the race was lost. Yes, man is lost. If man was made to know God, to love Him and his fellows, to follow holiness, then he needed saving very badly. The old world knew it, and we know it. Dean Inge has been called "the gloomy dean" because he says things like this; "one fact of the war has emerged with startling clearness. Human nature has not been changed by civilization. Beneath the dingy uniformity of international fashions in dress, man remains what he has always been, a splendid fighting animal, a self-sacrificing hero, and a blood-thirsty savage." True enough is that. It must be an awful power, must sin, to make progress so slow. Take this fact. I read in a home paper, that "the inn-keepers in the east of England are

serve the people in motor-charabancs with refreshments, because they have broken furniture, smashed glasses, and not paid their bills." Think of that, people who have all been educated to some extent, and likely, enough in Sunday School, cannot go on a bit of a Sunday excursion without making beasts and cads of themselves. And that after all these ages of Christian teaching and opportunity. "We have all sinned and come short of the glory of God," There is no doubt of it at all. Something was urgently needed. Man could not wait for the development of a "higher humanity." He could not wait at all. Something had to be done at once, just as the goalkeeper has to do something at once, when the other side is making shot after shot at the goal; he hasn't six weeks to think about it. He has to do something at once to "save the situation" as we say.

THE LIFE LINE.

Yes, and that is what God did by his Son Jesus Christ. He sent Him right down into the midst of our race, into the thick of the war between light and darkness. He came, He taught, He did mighty works, He died and rose again, He ascended to the Father, and gives His Spirit to us. That is the essence of the Gospel. It a great "Save," as they say. Christ came in the "fulness of time." That means, He came when He did because the world could wait no longer, or it would be lost. Christianity, as I have said is many things, but first it is a saving, an act of grace and mercy to lost and perishing men, Christ's forgiving the thief on the cross, is what the Gospel really is, God's loving emergency act, His casting of the lifeline to a lost race. That is it. Begin with that, and you can find lots of other things in Christianity. Miss that, and you have missed its meaning altogether.

Truly, salvation, the power of God in Jesus Christ, living, dying, and glorified, giving gifts to men, is as grievously needed to-day to save the world, as it was in that old empire in which Paul preached it with such triumphant success.

The November number of the "Far Eastern Review" which has just come to hand contains a number of highly interesting articles on Far Eastern matters, including a description by Mr. G. Bronson Rea of the American machinery, materials and methods have been introduced into Manchuria, which has, he claims, transformed its former stagnation into prosperity and progressiveness. Of particular interest is the article dealing with the possible combination of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Toyo Kisen Kaisha, Osaka Shosen Kaisha and the Kokusai Steamship Co., while in addition to a well written description of the Japanese fishing industry the number is well filled with a large quantity of valuable information on general Far Eastern matters.

THE PERFECT WOMAN

Oh lovely Woman, if inclined
To turn to higher things your mind,
Pursue the noble calling—
Climb upward to th' Empyrean blue
And take your errant husbands too,
Nor harbour fears of falling.

Yet look before you take the leap;
Pause and survey the chasm deep
That at your feet is yawning.
'Tis meet, if you would make that flight,
Your tongue be guarded day and night
Nay, padlocked night and morning.

And, when you reach that higher sphere
Where haloes are the only wear
(Though something more seems needed)
Superior to life's bitter stings,
You joyously shall clap your wings
And crow, "I have succeeded!"

Imprimis: Try to recollect
Your houseboy's serious defect
Of laziness is human.
Don't nag at him from morn. to night,
And threaten it would serve him right
If you engaged a new man.

Next, when your cook with tyro's art
Shall spoil your most successful tart,
Don't cry, "You no can bakee!"
"You allo same dam foolo cook!"
Not thus can mortals cross that brook;
So-fashion no can makee.

Next, if your amah entertains
Her cronies on the last remains
Of your most cherished sherry,
Don't call her harsh and cruel things,
Such words in ore who seeks her wings
Are injudicious—very.

Last, if your dearest friend should try
To "spoil your chances" in Shanghai
Smile sweetly and forgive her.
Perhaps her halo doesn't fit;
Perhaps she does not care for it;
Perhaps its only liver.

If all these things you shall endure,
And not despise your sister poor,
(Though I take leave to doubt it)
Your halo shall be one immense
Encirclement of common-sense
With blooms of Love about it.

Yet could you not remain on earth,
Content with a halo by Worth
From Paris? Here we need you;
For if translated to the sky,
We'd miss you sorely in Shanghai
With no one to succeed you.

DOLLY

It is reported from Peking that the Russo-Asiatic Bank has decided to change its name into the Paris-Polish Bank with the understanding of America, France, China and Poland. In those countries the bank will raise more capital and devote its strength thus augmented to the upkeep of the Chinese Eastern Railway.

SOME 70 Japanese fishing boats which were fishing off Port Arthur on the night of the 3rd instant were swept away by a violent storm. On the 6th instant most of these ships, whose disappearance had been causing intense anxiety to the fishermen's friends, returned, but ten are still missing. The naval authorities at Port Arthur despatched four destroyers in search of the missing vessels and fishermen. The drowned bodies of some 20 men were discovered, but the fate of 50 more is still unknown.

THE CHINESE THEATRE

As Seen in Szechuan—Its Connexion With Religion

—Notes From the Green Room—The Sad

Lot of the Actor

By Our Chengtu Correspondent

Travellers in Szechuan will be familiar with the tremendous amount of money and energy that has been expended in theatrical equipment. Until of very recent date the theatre was prominent in the worship of the people. Every temple or guild has one or more elaborate stages. The magnificent forests of the west supplied the high pillars and the solid timbers necessary to make these stage buildings permanent factors. In all public temples these stage buildings are gateways also, and face the main temple, the large open court between forming the auditorium. Extravagance is seen in the fact that villages and small towns will have two or three of these elaborate stages, while in larger towns and cities they are everywhere.

THE AUDIENCE.

These stage buildings consist of an open platform varying in size from 30 to 40 feet long and 15 to 20 deep and high enough from the ground for an average man to walk under. Behind the platform are the dressing rooms. On the right and left of the platform are doors leading to these inner rooms through which actors come and go as the play proceeds. In front of the stage building in the large open court two observation platforms are erected on the advent of a theatrical troupe. One is for men and is quite elaborate. It is almost on a level with the stage, covered with matting and is, in fact, a temporary tea shop. Tables and benches are supplied, and those who care to pay the price can sip their tea, crack their melon seeds or peanuts or even have a good feast served concurrent with the acting. Conversation, laughter, the shouting of hawkers, the hustle of a crowd never seems to give annoyance to the actors.

The second platform is for women. An opening between the boards permits the women and girls to sit down. No tea is served but they can indulge in sugarcane and other sweetmeats. A theatre is the day of liberty for women and girls. All fear of being seen departs, they sit hour after hour for days on these open platforms dressed in their brightest and best garments. The space between these two platforms is crowded with the proletariat—the "gods" in western theatrical language. A great motley crowd, they stand packed in like herrings. Summer heat or winter's chilling breezes never daunt them if they can but gaze at the brilliant pageant.

THE BIRTHDAY OF THE GODS.

The description of the theatrical environment would scarce be complete without reference to the hundreds of caterers who fill every

corner with their restaurants, fruit stands, medicine depôts, and fortune-telling booths; to hawkers of every description; to the big temple in the rear with its burning incense and rows of candles all aglow; to the crowd of worshippers who are making a special visit on this auspicious occasion (for is not this the birthday of some one of the gods?); to the busy priests circling around in their flowing robes, awakening the gods by beating drums or brazen urns, or keeping a zealous eye on the receptacle for copper cash.

A more animated scene can scarcely be imagined, especially if you include the bright dresses and painted cheeks of the women and children; the silk garments of the gentry; the gaudy brocades, richly embroidered with historical characters; and the many colours that are used for awnings. As these great theatrical festivals throughout the country districts are for the most part religious celebrations, is it any wonder the masses cling to a system that alone affords them the one great source of amusement? However grotesque and barren to the eye and ear of a Westerner, to the Chinese of all classes these theatricals are the most popular of all their amusements.

IMAGINATION'S FEAST.

The reason for this peculiar enjoyment may be traced to the imagination, and if the Chinese theatre has redeeming features one of them is that it has exercised the imagination of the Chinese masses.

This imagination has kept the patriotic blood from utter stagnation. It has kept through the darkness of the centuries the ever flagging spirit of worship.

The Chinese from infancy have learned to read into the personages of the stage a picture of their glorious past. Their imagination feeds upon the utterances of the great statesmen, the warriors, of the sages. It reconstructs the social conditions of antiquity. In the graceful swerve of the arm, in the motion of the body, the toss of the head, the swing of the feet, the glance of the eye, the stroke of the whisker, the ancient dead and their deeds of wonder or of baseness flash before them.

Through their imagination the people forget their violence, their rage, their hunger, their poverty, and with bulging eyes they are transported and become guests of emperors and mighty generals. When their hero is in danger they clasp their hands or stand on tip-toe ready to dash to his help. When the danger is past or the battle over and he strides the stage as victor their elation knows no bounds. As the Chinese theatres have no scenic effect, no curtains

or paintings suggestive of place or events, the actors strive to arouse the imagination by their apparel or their actions. Their costumes, hats, belts, or swords indicate to the audience the rank of the personages to be represented.

INSTANT RECOGNITION.

The moment an actor enters the stage his outfit—whether his gown, his cap, the colour or size of his whiskers, the paint on his face, the articles he holds in his hands—reveals instantly whether he is emperor, warrior, statesman, priest, retainer or rascal.

If an actor prances in, flourishing a whip, the audience beholds a horseman whose steed is rearing, plunging or standing still as the whip falls into position.

Does an empress or some beautiful lady with tiny feet enter? Two flags held by coolies suggest the sedan chair. Are some chairs placed on a table and a maiden balancing herself thereon? The audience beholds craggy cliffs and narrow dangerous footpaths and a fugitive fleeing from her pursuers.

TECHNICS OF THE TRADE.

Though the platform is so barren of effect yet the equipment of a theatre is very varied and from a Chinese point of view costs a little fortune. A first-class theatre employs from 100 to 200 men, a second from 60 to 100 and a third from 40 to 60. The cost per day ranges from \$50 downwards. So serious has become the problem of financing theatres that only the larger towns can indulge.

The men in connexion with a theatre are divided into seven or eight companies. Each group has its own special work.

First is the Wen Ch'ang Whei—Wen Ch'ang is the God of Literature. Actors in this class usually wear whiskers. To the Chinese, whiskers are associated with dignity. The flourishes made with these have special significance, for example, blowing out the whiskers indicates great indignation or wrath. The yards and yards of literature the actors must unroll to their patient hearers is almost unbelievable.

Second is the Tsai Shen Whei (God of Wealth). Actors in this class paint their faces. A face covered with white paste denotes a character well pleasing on the outside but has a very deceitful heart—white washed tombs. If the nose only is white, the petty thief is recognized, if some black is added, the rascal. If however he has the five colours, a hero is in evidence. Masks with the five colours are much in demand at New Year. If all red, he is a trustworthy person.

Third is Tu-di Whei—rural god company—or San Wha Lien Whei, the company with three daubs. These actors have white streaks running around each eye and one across the nose. These are the clowns of Shakespeare. They play the fool and are the chief source of merriment during a play. They crack jokes, not always wholesome, play on words and so touch the

funny bones of the Chinese they hold their sides with laughter.

THE FEMALE PARTS.

Fourth, Niang Niang Whei—the female company. Wives and daughters, maidservants, slaves, virtuous women and the cast-offs are dressed or painted to represent their different parts. The falsetto voice, the mincing step, the tiny embroidered shoe, the dainty fan, the shy glances are so natural that only the knowledge that women are not allowed on the stage could convince the beholder that he was being deceived.

Fifth, Deh Sheng Whei. Victorious company. Officers and soldiers of all ranks make up this company. There is quite a mob of these characters, as most plays have battle scenes requiring noise and show.

Sixth, Che Hsiang Whei, the happy company. This is a very important group without which a Chinese theatre would be lifeless if not powerless, namely the musicians. However discordant, rasping, unearthly the music may sound to a Westerner, the reverential gravity, the intelligent discernment of sounds pictured on the musicians' faces as they bang their drums, clap their cymbals, beat their *kongs*, toot their horns, draw the bow over three-stringed fiddles, or twang their crude banjos must deceive even the gods whose birthday they are so earnest in celebrating. One thing can be said of the musicians, they certainly work at their job.

Seventh, Kwan Yin Whei. This, named after the most popular idol of women, seems to be a misnomer, as the men of this group are the coolies who look after the trunks and boxes and move them from place to place. They are the general servants.

BEHIND THE SCENES.

In a small market town where a theatrical company from a neighbouring city was acting, the writer was a guest in the dressing-room of the stage house throughout one performance. This afforded a good opportunity to study the inner working of a theatre, its paraphernalia and the actors.

At one end of the room was a rack with headgear. When complete there are 72 different kinds and shapes. Each style discloses the rank or caste of the actor. Tinselled crowns and helmets hung side by side with the caps of knaves and clowns.

Red, white and black whiskers hung on a second rack. Riding whips and belts and a score of different articles used by horsemen were in their proper place. In the centre a table with a looking glass and different coloured paints was ready. Here a boy was standing and daubing his face with the five colours. The opposite end of the room contained the gowns, whose variety in a well furnished theatre is legion. A large proportion of these are beautifully embroidered and are now becoming valuable as antiques as the style and workmanship are becoming yearly more rare.

The play was a historical one and very exciting, if the terrible noise of the orchestra was any proof. The actors would troop in and out one door, go through their antics, and rush back through the other. All was life and movement but to a novice it all seemed like a pack of kids out for a good time, yet for two hours the crowd stood with uplifted heads, now solemn, now roaring with laughter. At the close an actor held up a false head (for me to examine) and said the villain's head would roll on the floor in the next and last scene.

STRIPPED OF THEIR FINERY.

Possibly no life in China is more degrading or debasing to soul and body than that of most actors. In the troupe just mentioned there were 70 persons, three-fourths of whom were boys from 10 to 15 years old. What the circus is to the western boy the theatre is to the Oriental.

They were a sad lot when their fine feathers were laid aside. Sore-eyed, clothes dirty, surrounded with filth and stench. No wonder they have been considered as outcasts. Under the old *régime* they were classed with barbers and soldiers, and neither they nor their sons were allowed the privileges of the examination halls nor to hold any official position. They usually have the reputation of being opium smokers, gamblers and prodigals of the lowest type, and yet to become an actor in China requires years of study. Every theatre tries to secure one or more stars. Many actors have province-wide reputations. The most popular are those who can best personify the characters of women.

INFLUENCE OF THE STAGE.

What influence has the theatre upon the life or the masses? On its behalf it may be said that through the stage the people have been kept in touch with their ancient history. They have had the example of patriots to copy and the fate of scoundrels to avoid. Its connexion with temples has preserved the religious instincts while its democratic spirit has made the Chinese good mixers and been a foe to caste.

On the other hand it is evident that history and the true ideals of patriotism are distorted and horribly warped that religious conceptions and moral ideas are embodied in actors whom the people utterly despise. As one writer says: "They are as dilapidated looking a company as ever met to thrill an audience with thoughts of noble deeds or to melt into tears with some pathetic story of human suffering." A careful study of the old theatre will disclose the facts that it numbs the intellectual and spiritual sensibilities as also the moral fibre of the people. The tendency now is to divorce the theatre from religion. Idolatry's most powerful ally has been the theatre. The "old theatre" without idolatry will wane and without the theatre idolatry will have a hard struggle. Under the new *régime* schools and other beneficial institutions will demand the money so lavishly spent on theatres.

UNIFYING CHINA'S RAILWAYS

Through Passage of Goods and Travellers

From a Correspondent.

Much emphasis has been laid on the lack of uniformity in Chinese railway administration. That is quite true, but at the same time the fact should not be ignored that great efforts are being made to unify the railways as far as conditions permit. A uniform system of railway accounts was adopted a few years ago under the able supervision of Dr. C. C. Wang, then Chairman of the Accounts Unification Commission in the Ministry of Communications. A technical commission consisting of technical experts from all government railways has been engaged in arranging for a uniform system in technical matters, such as signalling, etc. Finally, the work of the Railway Through Traffic Administration and the various traffic conferences is equally worthy of notice and consideration.

In the last few years, eight through traffic conferences have been held, the last one being only closed about a fortnight ago. These conferences were attended by the traffic managers and accountants of the various government railways for which through traffic could be arranged, as well as by members of the Railway Through Traffic Administration of the Ministry. Five lines—Peking-Hankow, Peking-Mukden, Peking-Suiyuan, Tientsin-Pukow, and the jointly administered Shanghai-Nanking and Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo Railways—sometimes known as the "Big Five," had always been represented at these conferences, but in the last one, three additional lines also sent delegates to attend the meetings. These were the Taokow-Tsinghua, the Lunghai, and the Pienlo Lines.

THE EIGHTH CONFERENCE.

The last Conference met at Peking from October 16 to 26. It was opened with a speech by the Chairman, Mr. H. N. Cheng, chief of the Railway Department and concurrently director of the Railway Through Traffic Administration, but later meetings were all presided over by the Vice-Chairman, Mr. C. S. Liu, co-director of the same Administration.

Among those who attended these meetings were Mr. J. E. Foley, manager of the Railway Clearing House; Mr. C. T. Shar, chief of Domestic Through Traffic Division of the Administration; Dr. M. C. Hsu, chief of International Through Traffic Division; Mr. J. E. Baker, accounting advisor to the Ministry; Mr. Tsien Yung, traffic manager of the Peking-Mukden line; Mr. P. L. Kwan, of the Peking-Suiyuan line; Mr. C. T. Chow, of the Tientsin-Pukow line; Mr. W. H. Steele, acting traffic manager of the Peking-Mukden line; Mr. W. A. Richardson, as-

assistant traffic manager of the Shanghai-Nanking and Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo lines; Mr. J. Barber, general manager of the Taokow-Tsinghua Line; and Mr. C. T. Yo, assistant managing director of the Lunghai and Pienlo lines. The secretaries to the conference were Mr. J. Lockhart and Mr. C. M. Chen, chief and assistant chief accountant, respectively, of the Railway Clearing House.

THE AIM OF A COMMON SYSTEM.

Previous to the holding of the Conference, various proposals had been sent to the Railway Through Traffic Administration by the different lines.

These proposals were classified and printed in the agenda. Altogether there were 28 items, and, with the exception of two or three which were withdrawn during the Conference, they were all adopted, a few with certain modifications. In some cases, they were recommended for approval by the Minister of Communications, as the Conference did not consider itself competent to give them the necessary sanction. As a whole, the proceedings were very satisfactory, as no question was left unsolved which could be solved by the Conference, and wherever any resolution was passed, there was much unanimity of opinion. No greater success could be claimed for any other Conference of a similar nature.

THROUGH GOODS TRAFFIC NEXT YEAR.

Among the questions dealt with at the Conference were the appointment of a Committee to deal with matters arising from the operation of through goods traffic which would begin January 1 next; the extension of the period of availability of all round trip tickets to one month except those that were made available for whole seasons; the issue of round trip tickets to Peitaiho Beach by all lines and at all stations; the opening up of certain stations on the Tientsin-Pukow line to through traffic; the adoption of a uniform system for express extra and berth charges; the free haul of service cars of other lines; the substitution of illustrated folders for newspaper advertisements; the alteration of free baggage allowances and extra baggage charges, etc. All these were satisfactorily settled.

Thus far the conferences have been held once every year, in October. Now, on account of the numerous questions that arise from time to time in connexion with through traffic, and in view of the inauguration of through goods traffic next January, it is considered necessary to hold two conferences every year. One of them is to meet as usual in October, while the other one, in order to take advantage of the convenience offered by the general traffic and accounts meetings, is to meet in April. Hence next April will see the ninth Domestic Through Traffic Conference in Peking.

AMERICAN WOMAN'S CLUB

Its 22nd Birthday

A GREAT GROWTH FROM MODEST BEGINNINGS

The American Woman's Club of Shanghai held their 22nd birthday celebration on Monday afternoon at the Carlton Café, holding this meeting as near the exact date of founding, November 29, as possible.

The club was founded in 1898 and included the following charter members:—Mrs. Young J. Allen, Miss Ethel Allen, Miss Emma Silver, Mrs. J. R. Hykes, Mrs. W. H. Lunt, and Mrs. Barchet. These women are still resident members of the club in Shanghai. The first meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Goodnow in Kiukiang Road. It was organized as a reading circle for the purpose of uniting the American women of Shanghai in a cultural and social way, and, although these members were full of aspirations and hopes for their society, they probably did not anticipate its wonderful growth into the organization of to-day boasting 500 members, 70 of them new just this autumn. That makes 1920 a record year because out of last year's 130 new members, not more than 40 came in as early as November 15.

MANY ACTIVITIES.

Club meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. A social hour precedes the meeting, which consists of an interesting programme given by one of the five departments. The Music Department holds three programmes during the year and furnishes some very fine musical numbers. There is a meeting held once a month in this department for the purpose of studying Appreciation and History of Music. The Literary Department have two or three very interesting exhibitions of embroideries and other Chinese things and they are meeting twice a month and doing some intensive work along these lines. Later in the year, they are taking up the study of Chinese literature. The Social Service Department are specializing in work for the American sailors, making Shanghai a better port, taking care of cases that seem to require help, furnishing entertainments for them once or twice a month, and in particular, getting as many Americans in Shanghai to open up their homes as far as possible so that the sailors will have some place to go to at Thanksgiving and Christmas time. When there are a large number of naval men in port, the club gives dances for them, as it did when the Huron and the Asiatic Fleet of destroyers were in port.

THE SOCIAL DEPARTMENT.

The Social Department looks after the social activities of the club. An example of their work was the Famine Relief Tea Dance

given at the Astor House not long ago. The Astor House proprietors very kindly donated the ball room and assisted the club in clearing \$1,200, at this one dance. This department is planning a series of bridge parties to be held on the first and 29th days of the month, the proceeds of which are to go to the work of the Social Service Department. The Mother's Department, which has only been organized this year, will be quite a valuable asset to the club, meeting twice a month for the purpose of studying children of all ages and their needs.

FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD.

Whenever people of importance come to Shanghai, the Club asks them to speak before it and thus its members are kept in touch with the big things all over the world. At the last meeting, the Club had as its special guests Dr. Freeman, the new pastor of the Community Church, and his wife. Both Dr. Freeman and Mrs. Freeman spoke a few minutes to the members at this time.

How easy it is for even those who ought to know better to indulge in bathos, says the "Madras Mail." The report of a Calcutta school opens thus:—"Another year has rolled on to eternity, and we now beg to submit our 46th annual report." We have recently been reminded of a specimen of bathos which perhaps holds the record. An English Justice of the Peace was its author. A little girl was being tried for injuring some poultry, not without the use of bad language, and the J.P., anxious to improve the occasion and to show the little girl the enormity of her offence, said:—"You see how easy it is to get into trouble. You begin by cursing your Maker and end up by throwing stones at a duck."



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THE SEA SERPENT AGAIN

A Tale of Tropic Seas

PASSENGERS WHO REALLY SAW THE CREATURE

From a Correspondent.

Singapore, September 1'.—The entry in her diary read like this:—

"Headed 10 points east of south, and making 10 knots against a four knot current, as the Captain said. I saw a sea-serpent in the Bay of Bengal when I crossed from Calcutta to Penang on the str. Kumsang. He was not very big around the body but he made up for his thinness in length, for he was at least 150-ft. long. I say 'at least' as quite that length was in sight, but as his tail and head were invisible I have no doubt the reptile measured over 200-ft. over all. He was distinctly visible, travelling within half a mile of the steamer on what was apparently a set course and was in sight more than an hour. We could have kept him in view several hours had not Capt. Buller changed our course so as to keep away from him. The captain tells me these hideous reptiles are not infrequently seen in this part of the world, in fact Mr. Buller says they are seen so often by the masters of ships running between Hongkong and Calcutta that no mention of sighting them is ever made in the ships' logs.

"I endeavoured to take a photograph of him but that was impossible, as he was so low in the water and only half exposed to view. I consider this the most remarkable sight I have seen since I left Ohio. I am so glad I have been so fortunate as to see a real, live sea-serpent in his own native element, as I never believed such things really were. I always thought sea-serpents were pure fabrications, but now I have seen one with my own eyes. I shall never again doubt the truth of what I read in the Sunday papers. Really, I would rather have missed seeing mystical India than to have missed seeing this monster."

Before getting nearer the sea-serpent it will be necessary to explain that the tourist whose diary is referred to was a certain Miss Brady who came from a little town in the south-west corner of the state of Ohio, U. S. A. She had taught school for a sufficient number of years to have saved enough money for a trip around the world. (This was in 1908, mind you, when travelling was less a luxury than now). She had "done" Europe, Egypt, Palestine, India, and joined us at Calcutta bound for China. She was spectacted and inseparable from a kodak and a leather-bound notebook diary, and she was continually asking questions, the sort of questions that cause sea captains to seek the seclusion of the bridge.

THE BOTTLE AND THE BEAST.

Now for the sea-serpent:

We had about 40 hours' steaming to do to reach Penang, and it was near tea-time.

Capt. Buller and I had sought seclusion and a bottle on the bridge to pass the time of day until the boy should decide it was time to bring tea, for it's a thirsty nine days' run, that from Calcutta to Penang, when the Chief Officer, Mr.

Finnan (the Scotch engineer called him "Haddie" for short), came up and, pointing over the lee quarter, said:—

"There a pretty sight, Captain."

Capt. Buller looked and turned to me. "Take a look, sonny. What d'you make it out to be?"

I looked—and then I looked again, carefully. "Capt. Buller," I said, "this whiskey of yours is good stuff. No doubt straight from the Highlands of bonny Scotland, and I've had only two pegs of it; but I've an idea that's a snake cut there and (and I looked again) it's an all-fired big snake at that! What sort of dope have you in that bottle? Do you see it, too?"

Half a mile away, and travelling our course but more to the south, was what looked like a big snake, about as large round as a nail keg, and with no beginning or end. Over 100-ft. of him were in sight, and he was going full steam ahead with an effortless undulating motion, every three feet of the long body bobbing out of water with rhythmic regularity.

"A headless sea-serpent," said I to myself, "and I've had only two pegs." I asked Buller for his glass, and his brown Irish eyes twinkled as I braced against the wheel-house and took a squint.

Instead of 150-ft. of sea-serpent I saw about 50 porpoises playing their well-known game of follow-the-leader, as porpoises will, you know, each following in the wake of the other, like ducks going to a pond.

SOMEBODY'S LEG PULLED.

"What an item for the diary," I remarked, having in mind Miss Brady's black book, with its detail of experiences with donkeys and donkey-boys at Cairo, and fleas in Palestine and India. "Wonder if she is on deck."

"I'm on, and she will bite easily," said Buller, and we went down the ladder and strolled on deck. After a turn or two we stopped in front of Miss Brady's chair and Buller excitedly clutched my shoulder with a grip that made me wince. "By Jove! Look at that! A sea-serpent, by gad! First I've seen this year."

"What do say, captain? A sea-serpent? Do tell! You must be joking," said the teacher-tourist, dropping Murray's "China and Japan" and reaching for her notebook. "Where is it?"

"Straight off there, plain as the nose on your face."

"For the lands' sake! Sure enough! Who would have thought it? What, how long it must be, how remarkable! Think of it, a real true-enough sea-serpent! What will you do, Captain?"

"Do, Madam? Do? What do you expect me to do? I shall make a course as far from that thing as I can. Why, Madam, if . . ."

"Surely, Captain Buller, this must be so very extraordinary! You must make an effort to capture the monster!"

"Capture him. Holy smoke! (Sorry, madam, beg pardon) Why, my dear Miss Brady, if this ship went within 100-yards of that there snake he'd swarm on board, the

middle part of him I mean, 'an then he'd haul hisself taut, and the Kumsang with her 1,700 soulless coolies would go to the bottom, seven miles under. Then, what would you do, madam?"

"But surely, Captain, can it be so dangerous as that? There must be some way of capturing the monster. It certainly must be of great value to the scientific world—such an unusual thing. Can't you shoot it, or, or, do something?"

THE CAPTAIN FLEES.

"He would probably be worth £5,000 to the British Museum, or to your own Smithsonian Institute," said Buller, "but the risk is too great," and the captain made a hurried retreat, reaching the safety of the bridge just in time to escape bursting. The violence of the laughter, when the pressure was removed, denoted the strain he had been enduring, and he called:

"Boy" with much energy.

But the ship did not change her course. The "monster" did, however, and ship and "serpent" slowly lost sight of each other. At the end of two pegs' time Buller was calm enough to go on deck again with a sober face. Directly, Miss Brady and the note-book came up to us and remarked:

"Of course you will report this on arrival at Singapore, Captain Buller?"

"Report what, madam?"

"Why, the sea-serpent, of course! Surely it is so extraordinary."

"Report it, Madam? Why, we see this sort of thing so often on this run we never think of reporting them. We'd just be laughed at and be told to change our brand of whiskey."

"You don't say," was all the little lady from Ohio said. "Well, I'm glad I saw it, anyhow."

THE latest move of the Japanese authorities in the matter of checking the "dangerous ideas," which some assert have taken possession of certain sections of the reading public is to establish a censorship over books brought from abroad. The Customs officials have already begun to examine all books imported, and even the books of private passengers are no exception to the new rule. These officials, presumably, will decide what constitutes a "dangerous" book and what is "safe." The Department of Home Affairs regards this new zeal with a certain amount of scepticism, and points out that the establishment of what amounts to a censorship over books is tantamount to cutting off the trend of modern thought, resulting in this country being isolated from the rest of the world in this respect. Books dealing with anti-Japanese movements, recently published in Shanghai and in the United States, and by Koreans residing in Russia, and books relating to the Korean question as seen from other points of view, are apparently forbidden, for, according to Mr. Akagi, the head of the Peace Department, these have been already confiscated. Books which deal with American-Japanese relations are also prohibited.

LIFE IN LONDON AND MOSCOW

Contracts in Freedom

The following article was recently contributed to the "Morning Post" by Captain Francis McCullagh, a British officer who was captured by the Bolsheviks in Siberia early last January. In order to be in a position to help his comrades, the British officers and soldiers captured at the same time, he registered himself as a civilian and, as such, was able to travel along the Trans-Siberian railway and to live for over a month in Moscow.

How can I convey a just idea of what present-day Moscow looks like to an Englishman who has never been there? It is a town of mystery and misery; of secret executions and a lawless Government; of freedom to wave red flags and preach free love and use language which would ensure one's instant arrest even in Hyde Park, but at the same time of an iron tyranny which will not allow a word to be said against itself. It is an inconceivable topsy-turveydom. You can do almost everything which would get you arrested in England, but if you do almost anything which we would consider praiseworthy the Extraordinary Commission will at once get hold of you. You may stand on the altar of the Cathedral and deny that there is a God. You may advocate the murder of Kings, Dukes, Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament, foreign officers and officials of every kind, mill-managers, bankers, merchants, and Bishops; but if you dare to suggest, on the contrary, that murderers of these different classes should be arrested and tried, you are sure to get into trouble with the police. If you try to start a purely religious revival you will certainly be arrested, as Mr. Plekhanov was in Petrograd. If you advocate the principle of private property, the right of trial by jury, the claims of the middle classes, you will soon be hauled before a revolutionary tribunal.

In London we have doubled the postage rate. In Moscow they have abolished it, and you can drop letters into a postal box without any stamp at all, but also, unfortunately, without much chance of ever getting an answer, for half the letters are never collected or delivered. In London they have increased the tramway fares. In Moscow they have abolished them; but, unfortunately, the trams do not run any longer. In England the railway fares have been raised. In Russia they have been abolished and you can travel free, if you are able to discover an ordinary passenger train running, a discovery which I was never able to make.

A SHOPWALKER.

Some of the most whimsical things that have been written by Mr. G. K. Chesterton, the most mysterious situations that have been invented

by Edgar Allen Poe or Sir Arthur Conan Doyle or Colonel John Buchan, might have been founded on fact in Moscow. In one of Mr. G. K. Chesterton's romances we are introduced to an anarchists' den, and one of the masked conspirators betrays by his gait the fact that he is a shopwalker. Now, one of Chicherin's principal assistants has exactly the same walk, and I should say that he was employed in a large drapery establishment in London. But he is not a person to laugh at, for he is deep in the secrets of the Third International; and when he puts his head on one side, rubs his hands gently together and asks, "What can I do for you?" you may be sure that he can "do" for you if he wants. He certainly held my life in his hands for some time.

Another assistant of Chicherin had been a tailor in London, where he might, perhaps, be described as a devil among the tailors, while now he is a tailor among the devils. In the East End he would press your clothes "while you wait" and "make them look as good as new"; now he will sign you a death-warrant while you wait. He is a dangerous, able, and fanatical man; he has charge of Bolshevik propaganda in England, and he also is not a person to laugh at.

The Moscow anarchists have in Tverskaya Street a large club where, if introduced by a member, one can get food. Lectures on anarchism are given daily in the club, and are open to the public. It is somewhat strange that, while political parties like the Mensheviks, who are almost the same as the Bolsheviks, are prohibited from holding political meetings or maintaining any sort of political organization, the anarchists, whose doctrine is the very antithesis of Communism, are allowed a certain amount of latitude, being, in fact, the only political party which Lenin will tolerate. Recently, however, the growth of the anarchist party alarmed the Soviet Government, and a good many arrests of anarchist agitators have been made, especially in Saratov.

CONTRADICTIONS.

In the Bolshevik system as I saw it in Moscow there are the greatest contradictions between theory and practice; and, after seeing the number and the size of these discrepancies, I have become doubtful of any theory of government ever coming into practice to resemble even remotely the idea which the constitution-framers have in their minds or of any Governmental action ever having the effect which statesmen expect of it. We have in our own history many instances of how futile are the deep-laid plans of Downing Street and Whitehall. James the First planted Ulster with sturdy compatriots of his who, instead of being a support to his dynasty, drove James the Second from his throne. We planted New England with Englishmen so as to counteract French influence in Canada, but New England threw us over while the French Canadians remained faithful to us. We beat

the Germans at great expense in 1918, but the French will have to pay us more than they paid the Germans in 1871, while the Germans will probably, in the long run, pay nobody anything at all. In the same way Lenin set out to kill militarism, with the result that he is now the only militarist in Europe. He has one of the largest and most enthusiastic armies in the world, schools for officers have been established in every town, and boys from 16 years to 20 are taught military exercises. What is more important, the Russian people have become, for the first time in their history, bellicose and jingoistic. They write martial poetry which even Kipling could not improve upon and of which they never before had any specimens in their popular literature. One poem to the "Red Star of Bolshevism" comes from a section of the workmen to whom Lermontov's "Borodino" never made an appeal; and their innumerable rude dramas in praise of militarism are quite a novelty on the Russian stage, where patriotic operas like "A Life for the Tsar" appealed to the Court and to nobody else.

GREEDY INDIVIDUALISTS.

Lenin set out to kill individualism in Russia as well as militarism, but all he has killed has been the vague Socialistic spirit which tinged the thoughts of most Russians, even those of the middle and upper classes. A harsh, greedy individualism has now mastered most of the Russian people. The old philanthropic landowner has gone, but has been replaced by a hard-fisted peasant class resembling the most unlovely type of French peasant, and the patriarchal old bureaucrat has been replaced by a violent and ill-mannered Commissar with all an American mill-manager's passion for work.

THE "Kokusai" Agency announces the appointment of Mr. Robert Nicholls, an Oxford man and a soldier-poet, as Professor of English at the Tokio Imperial University.

It is officially stated that 24 Korean women were arrested in connexion with the independence movement. The statement adds that since June last year a secret society called the Greater Korean Women's Patriotic Society has existed in Heijo among the Christian women, with headquarters at a hospital established by foreigners, and with branches in many places throughout Korea. They have not only encouraged anti-Japanese sentiment among their countrymen, but have contributed to the so-called Korean provisional government at Shanghai about Yen. 2,000 during the past two years. Raids made resulted in the arrests stated. Among the leaders there is one woman aged 61. Sixty other suspected persons are under surveillance, and 14 leaders have not yet been arrested. The total of those concerned in the society thus is about 100.

ELECTRICITY IN FRENCH CONCESSION

Short-Sighted Policy of Monopolists

The gravity of the situation with regard to the supply of electric light and water, and the maintenance of the tramway system in the French Concession, by the Compagnie Francaise de Tramways et d'Eclairage Electriques de Shanghai, which was the subject of an article in this paper on March 20 of this year, is now being dealt with at considerable length in a series of articles by M. A. Chapeaux in "L'Echo de Chine." The articles themselves, giving as they do the history of the company in some detail, are too lengthy for translation in full, but the following facts derived therefrom and M. Chapeaux's opinions will be read with interest by ratepayers in both the French Concession and the International Settlement.

Dealing with the supply of electricity, the writer points out that, prior to 1901, some houses in the French Concession were supplied from the system operating in the International Concession. By reason of the expansion of the demands of this clientele, and in order to maintain its independence, the French Municipal Council erected a station in 1900-1901 on the banks of the Yangkingping, in the compound of what is now the Northern Police Station, the installation only functioning during the hours when electric light was needed.

Towards 1907, the station proving insufficient to meet the demands made upon it, and as the question of tramways had arisen, the Municipal Council sold the monopoly in electric light and tramways to the Company at present under discussion. Between 1907 and 1909 this company erected a new station at Lokawei which was equipped with four machines with a total output of 1,100 kilowatts. In 1910-1911 a fifth machine was added, giving a capacity of 1,450 kilowatts, a total which was sufficient for the service and to provide the future requirements.

A GRAVE ERROR.

It is inexplicable that between 1907 and 1909 the concessionaire company, having obtained a new works and a complete modification of the existing lines, should have committed the technical and financial error of producing a continuous current of 2 by 240 volts, a system which did not lend itself to subsequent extensions. The Company was forced to acknowledge this error, for in 1911 it had to replace the continuous current by a three-phase current and, to do this, had not only to modify its works, but also its system of mains, meters, and all the private installations of the subscribers, i.e., fans, lamps, etc.

This error cost them dear, for the

important transformation thus necessary lasted from 1912 to 1915.

As in the case of the International Settlement, the intensive development and modernization of the French Concession brought to the company an increase in customers according to the following table:—

Year	Power Installed	Kilowatts Produced	Number of Subscribers	Maximum Force per hour
1910	1.100	1.745.387	336	610
1911	1.450	1.951.399	374	650
1912	1.450	2.579.647	530	920
1913	1.450	2.933.773	960	1.100
1914	1.450	3.258.581	1.418	1.200
1915	1.450	3.578.938	1.706	1.300
1916	1.450	4.724.016	2.126	1.505
1917	1.450	4.821.142	2.907	1.575
1918	1.450	5.544.402	3.674	1.792
1919	1.450	6.271.100	4.409	2.000
Début 1920	1.450	4.362.392	4.938	2.100

CURRENT FROM THE S. M. C.

It should be immediately stated that since 1910 the company has not installed any new generation and that, in order to meet the above considerable increase in its clientele, which would have been otherwise more extensive, if the company had followed a more liberal policy, it could do nothing better than obtain, since 1915, current from the Shanghai Municipal Council; and that despite the official protests made by the French authorities at the time.

Thus, in 1920, of a total power of 2,100 kilowatts taken from the company by the French Concession, the company produced 669 kilowatts, and purchased 1,431—70 per cent. of its needs—from the International Settlement.

Ever since 1913 the Company has talked about the construction of new works, but without conviction; time passes and the supply of current by the Shanghai Municipal Council becomes more considerable day by day.

STANDARDIZATION REFUSED.

Following a short-sighted policy the company has, since 1913, continually given a formal refusal to the demands of the French Municipal Council that it should standardize its tariffs and conditions for the supply of electricity, bringing them into line with those prevailing in the International Settlement.

M. Chapeaux then quotes *in extenso* the article appearing in these columns on March 20 of this year and concludes his remarks with a graph showing the manner in which the electricity undertaking of the Shanghai Municipal Council compares more than favourably with that of the French company. By this table it is shown that, whereas the capacity of the Electricity Department has risen to over 100,000 kilowatts, that of the French company only now totals 2,100 kilowatts.

A letter from a well-known local barrister announces that Mr. Levinson, who was reported to have died in Yokohama, has arrived safely in Vancouver and is expected to proceed to England.

WATER IN FRENCH CONCESSION

Company's Failure to Meet Growing Demands

In the course of his articles on the Compagnie Francaise de Tramways et d'Eclairages Electriques de Shanghai which he is writing for "L'Echo de Chine" M. A. Chapeaux has the following to say on the supply of water by the company in question:—

Prior to 1901 the French Concession was supplied with water by the Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd., but in 1900 by reason of the extension of the Concession the French Municipal Council decided to become independent by constructing a filtering station and a water tower and extending the system of distribution. In 1901 this new installation was set to work and all the main system was used by the Council which had bought it back from the Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.

This municipal exploitation lasted from 1901 to 1908 and during this time the principal mains in the Concession and in the exterior municipal roads were laid. The filtering station and the water tower becoming insufficient to meet the growing needs of the Concession, the French Municipal Council decided to part with the whole system to a concessionaire and with this end in view favoured a French enterprise by granting the monopoly to the company in question, which, at this time, seemed to be animated with the best intentions and whose subsequent mistakes it was not possible to foresee.

A PARSIMONIOUS POLICY.

In May, 1908, the French company took over all the existing installation and, practically speaking, made no important improvements beyond altering the existing basins and augmenting the machinery. These works lasted until 1910 when the installation was capable of dealing with 10,000 cubic metres of water a day. In agreement with its initial programme the Company laid another pumping main between its works and the French Concession in 1911 and erected a water tower at Lokawei, but since that time, in spite of the ever increasing needs of the Concession it has failed to enlarge its filtering system, limiting itself to extending the mains and doing even this in a parsimonious manner.

This attitude is all the more inconceivable in view of the development of the Concession which had a direct effect upon the development of the supply of water as shown by the following statistics, the figures given beginning in the year 1910 and extending to the beginning of this year, and the daily capacity of the works ex-

pressed in thousands:—

Annual Production in Cubic Metres	Maximum Daily Production in Cubic Metres	Daily Capacity of the Works	Number of Consumers
1,934,025	6,900	10	—
2,039,799	8,200	10	—
2,366,799	9,200	10	99%
2,850,380	9,800	10	1,106
2,471,936	10,400	10	1,200
2,677,680	10,200	10	1,28%
3,062,510	11,520	10	1,500
3,276,820	12,730	10	1,549
3,568,030	13,630	10	1,63%
3,687,360	14,030	10	1,680

beginning of 1920 2,571,286 16,320 10 1,746

It will be noticed that since 1914 the installation has been made to produce more than its proper capacity and the situation has gone from bad to worse without the company doing anything to remedy this state of affairs. Actually during the summer of 1920 the daily demand for water reached the total of 16,320 cubic metres, a surcharge on the installation of 63 per cent.

MANY COMPLAINTS.

This is the reason why the Concession suffered from an insufficiency of water during the spring and summer. All residents of the French Concession will remember the many complaints which were made, notably at the end of August and beginning of September of this year, a time during which two fires occurred, and, practically speaking, a general lack of water was experienced throughout the entire Concession. It is really for this reason and also by reason of the absence of perfected arrange-

ments that the filtered water was so dirty during the spring.

The explanation of the Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd., on this subject, in its letter of March 12, 1920, throws light on this point and shows that the Waterworks Co. had adopted new arrangements for remedying this inconvenience, which occurs year after year with more or less force during many months.

DEAF EARS TO THE COUNCIL.

Not only has the French Company installed nothing of a like nature, but it has failed to enlarge its filtering beds despite the fact that consumption in the French Concession has practically doubled during the past decade and that the daily production is only 2.4 times greater than it was in 1910.

To the reiterated demands of the Municipality for the abolition of the meter rent and the development of the main system the company has given refusal. The service of water leaves as much to be desired as the supply of electric light. The just claims of the public and the municipality have been systematically denied by the company.

At a meeting of the leading residents of Canton held at the Chamber of Commerce rooms, it was decided to raise a loan of \$1,000,000 for the Kuangtung Government. The conditions are that the loan shall be secured on the Salt Revenue; that it shall bear interest at the rate of 18 per cent. per annum, and the whole sum to be repayable within a year, repayment to begin at the end of the first four months.

COMMERCE & FINANCE

Money and Exchange

Shanghai, Nov. 19.

Sovereigns, Bank's buying rate @ 5/0=Tls. 4.00 @ 72.5=\$5.52	
Gold Dollars, Bank's buying rate @ 86½=Tls. 1.16 @ 72.5=\$1.60	
Mex. Dollars, market rate	72.25
Native Interest	14
Copper Cash	194,000

Bar Silver	50½
Bank rate of discount	7%
Proportion reserve to liabilities 11%	
Paris on London	Frs. 56.87
New York on London	G.\$3.43½

OPENING AND CLOSING BANK RATES.

ON LONDON—		1 Tael
Tel. transfer	5/0	4/11½
Demand	5/0½	4/11½
Credit 4 m/s.	5/4	5/3½
Credit 6 m/s.	5/5½	5/4½
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s.	5/4½	5/4
ON NEW YORK—		
Tel. transfer	86	85
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s.	93½	92½
ON PARIS—		
Demand	1438	1403
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s.	1535	1500
ON INDIA—		
Demand	312	309½
ON HONGKONG—		
Demand	74	74
ON YOKOHAMA—		
Demand	58½	59½
ON BATAVIA—		
Demand	285	282½
ON SINGAPORE—		
Demand	46½	46½

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR NOVEMBER.

Hk. Tl. 3.46 @ 5/2½	£1
" 1 @ 1413	Francs 15.74
" 1 @ 0.89½	Gold \$1
" 1 @ 56½	Yen 1.97
" 1 @ 318½	Rupees 3.54
" 1 @ 1.50	Mex. \$1.50
Roubles no quotation.	

Week's Exchange Notes

Nov. 20.

At the close of business on Thursday the stock of silver in Shanghai comprised Tls. 34,450,000 and \$26,350,000, including Tls. 500,000 in silver bars. These figures include Tls. 5,170,000 and \$12,640,000 in Chinese banks, in which there were no bars.

Bar Silver.—The following parcels were landed during the week:—

125 bars from Bombay	
394 " " America	
519 bars	

There were no shipments of bar silver.

Sycee.—Shipments were:—

Tls. 470,000 to Nanking	
280,000 " Hangchow	

Tls. 750,000

Dollars.—Arrivals were:—

\$190,000 from Nanking	
200,000 " Hangchow	

\$390,000

The Negative FLAG

of the Naval Code.

—Say "NO" when offered IMITATIONS of Lea & Perrins' Sauce.

Lea & Perrins

To distinguish the original and genuine Worcestershire Sauce from the many imitations, see that the signature of **LEA & PERRINS** appears in *White* across the *Red* label on every Bottle.



Shipments were:—

\$40,000 to Chefoo
50,000 „ Tungchow

\$90,000

SILVER.

At the commencement of the week silver was quoted 54½d. ready and 53½d. forward and registered a steady decline up to the 16th instant, when the quotation was 51d. ready and 50½d. forward. There was a slight recovery the next day to 51½d. ready and 51½d. forward, apparently owing to speculators buying. The latest quotation is 50½d. ready and 50½d. forward, a decline during the week of 3½d. ready and forward. During the same period the New York quotation for delivery San Francisco fell from 82½ cents to 78 cents on the 15th instant, recovering during the next two days to 80½ cents. The latest American quotation is 79½ delivery San Francisco, at which rate business was done.

EXCHANGE.

Except for an advance of ½d. on the 18th instant, rates have showed a steady decline during the week from T.T. 5/4d. to 5/0. yesterday's opening quotation, and, dropping another ½d. to 4/11½d. in the afternoon. During the current week there have usually been sellers from ½d. to 1½d. over quotations but the market is now on the weak side and current rates are the best obtainable. Chinese operators were busy during the week, which to a great extent accounted for the higher rates which could be obtained in some quarters.

Gold Control in Britain

London, Nov. 11.

In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. Stanley Baldwin, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, moving the second reading of the Export of Bullion Bill, said that the bill empowered the Government to regulate, when necessary, the export of gold by Order-in-Council, and to make regulations controlling its export by licence. The bill also increased the penalty for melting down coin from six months to two years' imprisonment.—Reuter.

Investments in America

Dealing with the subject of investments, the National Park Bank of New York says:

The bond market to-day is largely in the hands of small investors, for the reason that millionaire buyers, or the wealthy classes, have been forced to invest their surplus income in tax exempt securities, owing to the exactions of the federal income tax law. The withdrawal of these investors from the bond market has been unquestionably an important influence in advancing interest rates, since the shifting from taxable securities to tax exempt issues by persons in receipt of incomes of \$50,000 or more, has added to the supply of

outstanding bonds and in addition, has deprived the new issues of the support of the large bond buying class. This situation may change as living costs are reduced and the demand for credit accommodation decreases. But the exactions of the super-tax are such as to make it necessary for persons in receipt of large incomes to secure from 10 to 17 per cent. return from a taxable bond in order to make it as advantageous an investment as a tax free bond yielding only 5 per cent.

Shanghai Commercial & Savings Bank

The 10th semi-annual report of the Shanghai Commercial & Savings Bank Ltd., from the period from January 1 to June 30 states:—

In every department of our bank, business for the past half year showed a steady gain over previous corresponding periods. Although deposits for this period showed an increase by about \$2,300,000, the real reason was partly because a portion of our deposits were in gold and the increase was figured from the favourable exchange of silver over gold. The cash reserve in our vault, together with deposits with banks in China and abroad, totalling to more than \$3,600,000 show the highest figure since the opening of our bank. Due to political unrest, however, it was necessary for us to maintain a strong cash reserve and because of the dull business market, there was little demand for money. Similarly, business in the interior, where our branches are located, has also suffered and a conservative policy was generally adopted by us.

In closing this report, we are glad to say that our bank made a net profit of \$187,362.46 for the past half year. This with the amount carried over from the previous half year's account, which is \$15,768.46, makes a total of \$203,130.92, from which, the Board of Directors, on August 20, appropriated the following:

\$80,000—For reserve fund.
(total \$200,000.)

\$30,000—For interim dividend.
the balance of \$73,130.92 to be carried over to next half year's account.

Shanghai Market Report

Nov. 20.

PIECE GOODS.

The brighter outlook of a few weeks back in the piece goods trade seems quite at an end. This week the market is decidedly flat, and it appears more or less certain that no real improvement can be looked for this side of Chinese New Year.

While China is suffering in common with other countries from the worldwide financial stringency, she has at present the additional handicap of her own immediate financial difficulties. A few months ago the native banks were doing a large business in the way of advances against cargo, and the

chances are that to-day they believe that they have given too large credits, considering how the market has gone in the intervening months. Accordingly the present policy appears to be to advance nothing at all. From their point of view, considering the approach of China New Year, this is probably sound, but this drawing in of their horns is having the effect of curtailing a trade which had already shrunk to small enough dimensions. There is reported to be ample money in the country, but at a time like the present nobody will allow it to go into circulation.

One of the brightest features of the market a couple of weeks back was the activity of the Szechuan dealers who bought piece goods heavily. To-day it is reported that they are placing them on the local market, the condition of their province being too unsettled to permit of trade being resumed. Possibly the threat of a renewed invasion by Yunnan has induced this action, but it is also well known that the province is overrun by banditti whose operations make the transport of goods very nearly impossible.

A short time ago we alluded to the suggestions on the part of a section of the piece goods dealers of a strike or boycott. This report has again been current during the week, without, however, causing any perturbation among foreign houses. In the first place the Piece Goods Guild has nothing to do with these proposals, and in the second it is difficult to see how the strike could be carried on effectively. The dealers who talk of striking are doing no business just now, and presumably they would simply continue to do no business, so the position would not be worse as a result of their efforts. Talk such as that mentioned is the height of futility, and if these people imagine that they are going to blackguard the foreign merchants into wholesale cancellations they are badly out in their calculations.

COTTON.

China cotton has been easier during the week. While it is reported that local growers are sending in only small quantities the arrivals from Tungchow have been heavy, and generally speaking there have been more sellers than buyers. Business in the staple continues to be of very small dimensions. Quotations are rather lower than last week, being as follows:—

Tungchow	Tls. 25½
Shanghai	„ 23
Nanzu	„ 23
Taichong	„ 23
Hankow	„ 24½
Ningpo	„ 25½
Shensi I	„ 26
Shensi II	„ 22

No new business has been reported in local yarn during the week, but clearances continue to be good. Although here and there some weakness has shown itself, the market has on the whole been steady.

SILK.

The position in the silk trade is more or less the same as a week ago, the only difference being rather more signs of inquiry from Europe. Contrary to expectations America has not shown signs of life following the conclusion of the Presidential election, in fact it has rather been the other way about. The probability is that production is being reduced owing to inability to sell. The situation in Europe is, of course, healthier owing to the absence of large stocks.

From the fact that production is to be suspended in Japan it is evident that the process of recovery is to be very slow. Locally prices remain steady, but some filatures are closing for the reason that it does not pay them to work.

SEED.

No local business in sesamum seed has been reported during the past week. Prices remain steady on our side. In Europe the market has declined considerably out of proportion to the fall in exchange, making further business impossible for the time being.

HIDES.

There is nothing doing in hides, and the market seems to be going from bad to worse. Holders would be willing to make some concessions, but not nearly sufficient to allow of business with Europe or America.

FURS.

The fur season opened locally this week, although some business has already been done in Tientsin. So far only very small transactions have been reported, and these at half last year's prices.

Hankow Trade

The British Chamber of Commerce, Hankow, in their report for November 10 state:—

Finance and money market.—We again have to report very little business during the week, either in bills or remittance. Taels T. T. on Shanghai remained firm, 97.2 being done. Foreign banks were unwilling sellers. Dollars were firmer at 70.125—70.325 buyers and sellers. Interest was also firmer at 16½ per cent.

Exports.—A quantity of sesamum seed was reported to have changed hands, otherwise there was little doing. There are signs of a slight recovery of Home markets. Local values for most products are weak with a downward tendency.

Imports.—There is no change to report with the exception of a slight improvement in yarn prices.

Silk Industries Closed in Japan

Los Angeles, Nov. 17.

All the silk industries in Japan will be closed for three months, beginning December 20, according to a telegram from Marquis Okuma to the Japanese consulate here.—Reuter.

A Steel Combine

London, Nov. 13.

The report of an American-Continental steel combination, hostile to Great Britain, is contradicted. However, it is stated that an international agreement, which includes British works, is under discussion. The opinion is expressed that the proposal to maintain prices by an international agreement is not likely to be realizable.—Reuter.

Cotton Trade Depression

London, Nov. 12.

At a meeting in London of the International Cotton Committee, extensive reports were received from members showing depression in the industry in all parts of the world, and that organized short-time working had been extensively adopted. The appointment of arbitrators to deal with disputes affecting yarn and cloth contracts has been greatly appreciated, and many such disputes have been satisfactorily settled.—Reuter.

Silk Exhibition in New York

Peking, Nov. 15.

The Chargé d'Affaires in Washington informs the Government that an exhibition of silk products is being held at New York next year, and requests arrangements to be made for suitable Chinese exhibits.—Reuter.

Mr. Fox's Tour

London, Nov. 12.

Mr. H. H. Fox, Commercial Counsellor of the British Embassy in Peking, has completed a tour of the industrial centres in England, and is at present stationed at the Department of Oversea Trade, where he will be available for consultation pending his return to China in the first week of December.—Reuter.

Suggested Mission to China

According to the "London & China Express" Mr. H. H. Fox, British Commercial Counsellor in China, when on a visit to Nottingham, suggested to Midland chambers of commerce the sending of a mission to China consisting of representatives of hosiery, lace, and boot trades, taking samples to show what the Midlands sell. The Chinese, Mr. Fox says, are just beginning to wear foreign clothes, and the first things they take to are shoes, socks, and underclothing. In Nottingham the manufacturers appear to be impressed by the suggestion, which will probably be adopted.

The Freight War

Washington, Nov. 10.

Discussing the question of rate-cutting between ocean lines, Admiral Benson, chairman of the United States Shipping Board, urged American exporters to patronize American ships. He said

that, if foreign vessels succeeded in driving American vessels from the seas, rates would invariably increase.—Reuter.

Hair Nets

Reporting on the market for hair nets on November 8 the Eastern Products Co., Chefoo, states:—

The past week has seen no decrease in buying orders.

Hair nets are coming in from the country in steady quantities and no shortage of 10-38 cap nets or 38-40 fringe nets is felt as yet.

On 12-38—12-42 cap nets and 44-46 fringe nets there is no stock offered, but these sizes can be secured on special contract.

Nets, however, still have to be carefully examined for broken nets, small sizes and short count.

Market quotations on hair nets to-day are as follows:—

	Mex. market price Chefoo.
Capnets.— 10—38	\$3.10
" 12—38	3.40
" 12—42	3.80
Fringenets. 38—40	4.30
" 44—46	5.50

Business Depression in America

Washington, Nov. 14.

An unexpected wave of business depression has followed upon the Presidential election in the United States.

One hundred and fifty thousand workers engaged in the clothing trade alone in New York are out of work, and the textile mills are either working short time or have closed down altogether.

The curtailment of motor-car production has been intensified, and manufacturers generally are shortening the working week or discharging their workers and re-employing them at reduced wages.—Reuter.

Coal Output

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending November 6 amounted to 86,491 tons, and the sales during the same period to 64,683 tons.

The general managers of the Fu Chung Corporation advise us that the sales of their coal (Honan anthracite) for the month of October last amounted to 77,322 tons.

Tobacco Sales

The general agent of the Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ltd., has received the following telegraphic advice from the Deli Maatschappij, Amsterdam:—

Sold 26 bales tobacco at Guilders 0.75
Sold 293 bales tobacco at Guilders 0.75

October Rubber Output

lb.
Permatas 6,993

The Reduction of Rubber Output

The recommendations of the Rubber Growers' Association for a reduced output would appear to have met with general approval by the members of the Association, says the "London & China Express." When reduced output was recommended for 1918, in consequence of the freight difficulty, only about 75 per cent. of the members agreed; on the present occasion the support is practically unanimous. From Malaya the response has been whole-hearted, whilst Ceylon will act in 1921. The Dutch and Chinese interests have not yet signified their formal adhesion to any plan to meet the present position of supply exceeding demand, but there are reasons to believe that they will fall into line of a general scheme. That scheme, as propounded by the rubber growers, is to reduce the estimated output by 25 per cent, and to continue that reduction so long as circumstances demand. Whether the result is achieved by alternate day tapping or resting of areas is left to individual decision by respective owners.

London Rubber Prices

Messrs. J. A. Wattie & Co. have received the following telegram dated London, November 11, from Messrs. Barker & Co.:-

Average spot price standard quality ribbed smoked sheet 1/0½
Average spot price standard quality first crêpe 1/1½
Market steady.

Trade with Chinese Turkestan

In a report on trade for 1919-20 the acting British Consul-General at Kashgar states:-

Trade between India and Chinese Turkestan during 1919-20, both import and export, showed a distinct improvement over that of the previous year. The continuance of the revolution in Russia and the consequent stoppage of trade has benefited trade with China, and the demand for tea, silks, embroid-

ery, cotton stuffs, chinaware, sugar, and preserves continues.

The quantity of raw material exported to Japan and of manufactured articles imported therefrom annually increases. Presuming on the market having been captured, however, Japanese articles of inferior standard are already beginning to appear. This deterioration is particularly noticeable in the case of cutlery, needles, matches, scents, soaps, cotton prints, and dyes.

Chinese Turkestan has a large exportable surplus of wool, offering considerable prospects for trade. The transport difficulty is not insuperable—the wool could be carried by camels across the Mongolian grass lands from Kucheng to Kuei Hua Ch'eng. In view of prevalent conditions in Russia, the import trade into Chinese Turkestan by the Mongolian route could be largely increased if the export trade were developed.

CHINESE TOBACCO

The Absence of Exports

In common with other articles of Chinese produce there is a distinct absence of exports of Chinese tobacco during the present season, these being confined to the smallest possible dimensions, in strong contrast to the years when they were very heavy. Inquiry tends to the conclusion that this position is not so abnormal as in the case of other articles of Chinese produce, and this notwithstanding the fact that a shortage of tobacco exists in the world. The salient fact is that Chinese tobacco is as yet of so inferior a grade that only an exceptional scarcity brings it into general consumption in the world's markets.

With the closing of the greater part of Asia Minor to the world's markets the shortage of tobacco became very pronounced during the war. The scarcity of the particular leaf required for the production of Turkish and other high-grade cigarettes was most pronounced, and accordingly manufacturers had recourse to the Far East. Korean tobacco especially

came into use for Turkish and similar brands, as it has an Oriental flavour which made the most effective substitute for the real article, but Japanese and Chinese varieties were also employed. An extensive export trade thus grew up in this produce. To-day, however, this is no longer the case, not merely because of the general dislocation of China's export trade, but even more so because of the inferior quality of the article.

LIBERATION OF ASIA MINOR.

One reason especially may be assigned for the sudden falling off of tobacco exports. The armistice liberated large stocks of tobacco which had been accumulating in Asia Minor during the war, and this assisted materially in relieving the world scarcity. To-day when the tobacco-growing industry is in full swing the scarcity is no longer so acute, the Chinese article is out of favour and only the smallest quantities are exported. The reason for the world shortage is to be found in the increase of cigarette smoking in Europe and America. The American figures show a rise of from 18 odd billions to 42 billions between 1918 and 1919, and the increase in England and France is equally striking. This is supposed to be largely due to the fact that women are smoking a great deal more than previously, but a small proportion of the increase may be found in the fact that the pipe-smoking fraternity is diminishing.

Germany took considerable quantities of tobacco from London during the past year, in spite of the fact that Three Castles cigarettes were selling in Berlin for a mark apiece. As a matter of fact through the dislocation of their currencies Germany and the rest of Central Europe are unable to buy their normal quantities of tobacco, otherwise it is possible that the shortage would be so pronounced that there would be a greater chance for the Chinese article.

In the meantime, it is believed, a slow but appreciable improvement is taking place in Chinese tobacco, and granted steady progress along these lines increasing exports may be looked for during coming years.

The China Mutual Life Insurance Co. Ltd.

A BRITISH COMPANY

Registered under the Hongkong Ordinances and with the Board of Trade (England)

With Assets totalling Taels 10,165,190.33,

AGENCIES THROUGHOUT ASIA

Policies free from all unnecessary conditions and restrictions. Reduction of Premiums for Home Residences

HEAD OFFICE: SHANGHAI

LAW REPORTS

H. M. SUPREME COURT

Before His Honour Judge
SKINNER TURNER.

**J. P. Bisset & Co. v. J. T.
Hammond.**

Plaintiffs in this case claim as agents for the landlord of No. 20 Yates Road, for recovery of the said premises, on the ground of the sub-letting thereof by the defendant without the consent in writing of the plaintiffs, contrary to the terms of the lease whereby defendant holds the same and without mesne profits, value of the property in dispute and mesne profits not exceeding Tls. 1,000.

Mr. M. Reader Harris appeared for plaintiffs, and Mr. H. Lipson Ward for defendant.

His Lordship made a formal order for pleadings.

**Philippine National Bank v. The
Eastern Syndicate Ltd.**

Plaintiffs' claims for Tls. 26,422.74 as holders of five bills of exchange against defendants as acceptors thereof; plaintiffs further claim Tls. 4,813.45 damages for breach of a contract in writing, contained in documents dated April 12, May 10, and August 11, 1920; also the sum of Tls. 2,077.24 for breach of a similar contract in writing dated August 30.

Mr. H. Lipson Ward appeared for plaintiffs, and Mr. K. E. Newman represented the Liquidator (Mr. E. Mortimer Reid).

Mr. Ward informed his Lordship that since the action was brought he had heard from Mr. Newman that the company had gone into liquidation. He was prepared at this stage to agree to an order that the action stand adjourned in order that plaintiffs can present their claims to the liquidator, so that any claims not admitted may be brought into Court in the action.

His Lordship:—Are not proceedings against a company estopped when the company goes into liquidation?

Mr. Ward:—I don't know about voluntary liquidation.

Counsel added that the parties were agreed that the liquidation should be under the supervision of the Court.

His Lordship:—Can I do that without notice to any other creditors, without a proper petition under the Companies' Ordinance? After all, you are only one creditor.

Mr. Ward:—No other creditor can object.

His Lordship adjourned the return day for a week to enable formal application to be made in this respect.

ADMIRAL Sah Chen-ping, the Minister of Navy, has decided to send a mission to America to study the present naval system in that country.

A SETTLEMENT DAY LAW SUIT

A Problem in Property

CLAIM AGAINST A CHINESE DEFAULTER

An interesting case arising out of the September settlement was heard in H. M. Supreme Court on Thursday before his Honour Judge Skinner Turner. The plaintiff was Mr. J. A. Hayes, and the defendants Messrs. Davies & Brooke, and the case came forward on a motion for an injunction to restrain defendants from dealing with the beneficial interests possessed by Kwah Yiu-tseu (also known as Koh Yui-chow) in British Consular Lots No. 4405, 4477, 6787, and 7998, and in French Consular Lot No. 75, upon any directions given or to be given by Kwah (or Koh), otherwise than in pursuance of the judgement given on October 29, in the Mixed Court, in the case of J. A. Hayes v. Kwah Yui-tseu.

Mr. Duncan McNeill appeared for plaintiff and Mr. H. Lipson Ward for defendants.

Mr. S. H. McKean said he appeared on behalf of two Chinese who were interested in the property as beneficial owners—Chen Tsu-chi and Koo Chung-ming.

His Lordship questioned whether Mr. McKean had any *locus standi* there at all, except as watching the case, his clients not being named in the writ.

Mr. McKean replied that he held Messrs. Davies & Brooke's declaration of trust that they held this property on behalf of his clients.

RECOLLECTIONS OF CAUSE CELEBRE.

Mr. McNeill, in opening the case, said this was an action which brought before the Court the rather tarnished name of the person who was plaintiff in the Neotia case. In spite of reverses sustained in 1916, Koh had acquired a considerable amount of land and property, some of which stood in the name of Messrs. Davies & Brooke. What was being asked now was that the Court should, by its order, supplement an order made by the Mixed Court, and assist in the carrying out of that order. When the opium business had been finished, counsel continued, Mr. Koh took up speculation in shares, and at the September settlement he owed nearly four lakhs to Mr. Hayes. Proceedings were taken in the Mixed Court and judgement was obtained.

Counsel read over the judgement of the Mixed Court, which provided that in the event of defendant failing to carry out the order, the Registrar of the Court should instruct Messrs. Davies & Brooke to dispose of Koh's beneficial interest in the land. The order was a very full one, counsel continued, and seemed to provide for everything. Steps were taken to carry it out, but when Messrs. Davies & Brooke

were communicated with, it was found that they were in this position: something had happened which did not make it possible for them to deal with the land in the way it was suggested, at any rate without the sanction of the Supreme Court.

DEBT ON SHARE TRANSACTION.

For several days prior to the settlement, Mr. Hayes had pressed Koh to come to some decision, but his answer was that he could neither take up the shares nor provide money for the difference. On September 24, Mr. Hayes instructed a French solicitor—Koh being resident in the French Concession—to inform him that proceedings would be taken if a settlement were not effected, and three days later Koh went to the office of Messrs. Davies & Brooke and instructed them to hold the property belonging to him for the two Chinese named by Mr. McKean. A document to this effect (now produced) was accordingly given to Koh. These Chinese had made no attempt whatever to assert a right of beneficial ownership, and counsel contended that the position of Messrs. Davies & Brooke as trustees for Koh had not been altered. It was a case of bad faith on the part of Koh, and he asked the Court to say that, in these circumstances, Messrs. Davies & Brooke would be perfectly justified in complying with the order of the Mixed Court and dealing with the property for the benefit of Mr. Hayes.

"NO GOT MONEY."

His Lordship commented upon the fact that, by the order of the Mixed Court, its Registrar was ordered to give instructions to a British subject; observing that it seemed somewhat unusual.

Counsel admitted that it was unusual, but added that the Court had appointed its officer to give directions which an absconding defendant had declined to give.

His Lordship:—Yes, and the combined effect is probably *nil*. If Messrs. Davies & Brooke had been told to do so-and-so by the Registrar and refused to do it, nothing could have happened. The only person who can penalize them for not obeying an order is this Court.

Mr. Hayes then gave evidence bearing out his counsel's statement with regard to the transactions with Koh, whose only answer when asked to settle up was "No got money."

What did you understand him to mean: that he could not take up the shares?—I understood it to mean he was not quite telling the truth.

Witness went on to describe the proceedings taken up to the time of judgement being given in his favour in the Mixed Court, for the full amount claimed.

THE CHARGE OF BAD FAITH.

His Honour raised the point as to whether notice of these present proceedings had been given to Koh. If the Court was to be asked to find

bad faith against a person, it seemed that that person ought to have an opportunity of being present to clear himself, whether he was subject to the jurisdiction of the Court or not.

Mr. McNeill—I cannot deny that. The basis of this application is manifest bad faith. Koh did not transfer or attempt to transfer this property until after he knew he was going to be asked to pay.

Mr. Ward said his clients did not know where Koh was at present. Even if they did know, however, he did not know that they would see fit to give him notice of these proceedings. He had given certain directions to Messrs. Davies & Brooke which, so far as they were concerned, divested him of this property. They were in the position of trustee for the person legally entitled to the property, whoever he was, and their only object now was to see that they were protected. The transactions between Koh and Mr. Hayes did not concern his clients. Their position was simply this: that they were registered owners of certain property in the usual way for Chinese, and that whenever they got directions from that Chinese to deal with the property in any way, they merely concerned themselves with taking the necessary steps to carry out his instructions. The dispute here was really between Mr. Hayes and Mr. McKean's clients. They held the documents of title, for what they were worth, granted by the registered owner of the property in question.

Evidence was then given by Mr. Charles Gilbert Davies, and Mr. Ja Costa, bearing out counsel's statements.

In answer to Mr. McNeill, Mr. da Costa said he had never seen Mr. McKean's clients. He had not seen their signatures, and did not know their names until two days ago.

AN INTERIM ORDER.

Mr. Ward suggested, in the course of a lengthy discussion, that the Court should make an order granting an injunction restraining Messrs. Davies & Brooke from dealing with the property, pending determination of Mr. McKean's claim by a competent court.

His Lordship made an interim order to this effect, and announced that he would give his decision in the matter to-morrow.

Referring to the Housing Problem in the Straits Settlements, the Governor of the Colony in his Budget statement said: "I should like to see more attempts to form building societies on the lines of public utility societies at home; they are ideal associations for those sections of the community which wish to form and maintain residential reserves for themselves. The Government will be prepared to assist them with money and to pass special legislation for their registration, as the Societies and Companies Ordinances are not suitable to their needs."

A CAR LICENSING QUESTION

A Very Neat Point

At H. M. Police Court on Wednesday, Mr. E. E. Fresson was summoned for using car No. 3227 without a licence, and with failing to produce a driver's permit when requested to do so by the police.

Mr. R. C. Faithfull appeared to prosecute.

It appeared that the car had been reported in connexion with some alleged infringement of rules, and the police then discovered that it had changed ownership. Instructions were given that a look-out should be kept for it, and on the night of the 9th instant P. C. Watson saw defendant in the car in Haining Road, and he was then unable to produce either licence or permit.

Defendant explained that after having purchased the car in September, he had not used it for six weeks, it being under repair. When he wanted to use it, he found the Tax Office was closed for the Races and he was unable to take out a licence. He did so, however, on the Thursday after the races. He contended that it was not necessary to take out a licence for the period during which the car was in the garage.

His Worship:—Do they allow for "broken periods"?

Inspector Maguire:—I think some reduction is made.

His Worship:—Was the Tax Office closed altogether during Race days?

Defendant:—I went at 10 o'clock and was informed that they were shut. I took out a licence on Thursday last, in the meantime informing the police that I should use the car on the Wednesday.

Mr. Faithfull:—That is the case for the prosecution.

His Worship:—What is your case? Defendant has explained why he did not have a licence. I am rather surprised that licences are issued for "broken periods." I do not see of what offence defendant is guilty. He did not use the car during October, and when he did use it and went to get a licence the Office was shut. And you have charged him with failing to produce a driver's permit, contrary to the conditions of a licence which he did not possess. The case must be dismissed.

A petition for rehearing was filed in the U. S. Court for China on Tuesday by Mr. P. M. Linebarger, on behalf of Jack Leo Welch, who was recently found guilty of shooting a Chinese girl at No. 207 Fearon Road and sentenced to two years' imprisonment in Bilbid Prison and a fine of G. \$500. Mr. Linebarger also filed a petition in the case of the American sailor who is charged with murder by throwing a Chinese cook into the Yangtze on the ground that the crime was committed outside the jurisdiction of this Court.

A DOCTOR'S RIGHT TO PRACTICE

An Interesting Judgement

DRS. RANSOM AND PARTNERS
v. DR. PAUL MARTIN

Judgement was delivered on Saturday by his Honour Judge Lobingier in the case in which Drs. Ransom, Street and Massey sued Dr. Paul M. Martin to restrain him from practising medicine within 100 miles of Shanghai. Messrs. Fleming, Davies & Bryan acted for plaintiffs and Messrs. Jernigan, Fessenden & Rose for defendant. The judgement was as follows, plaintiffs' application being dismissed:—

The parties to this cause are all physicians and the purpose of the action is to enforce by injunction an alleged acceptance by defendant of a proposal by plaintiffs, who are a firm of practicing physicians in Shanghai.

"That in event of the termination for any cause of your association with us, you will refrain, completely for a period of five years (5), from the practice of medicine and surgery in any of their branches and from medical work of any description in the International Settlement, the French Concession, the Chinese City, Chapei, Nantao or within a hundred miles of the intersection of Nanking Road and the Bund in the International Settlement of Shanghai."

The sole question is whether the minds of the parties met on the foregoing proposal so as to effect a valid agreement. For it is conceded to be the well settled doctrine of this and other courts that such a meeting is a prerequisite for every valid contract.

Prior to associating with plaintiffs defendant had been consulting surgeon of the Siberian Commission of the American Red Cross. On January 3 one of the plaintiffs wrote him at Vladivostok suggesting that he come to Shanghai to negotiate with a view to joining plaintiff's firm. The suggestion was acted upon with the result that defendant came and entered into such negotiations with plaintiffs the second of whom handed him two letters, one (Ex. 4) dated February 1 and renewing the proposal that defendant take said plaintiffs' place in the firm and the other (Ex. A) dated January 31 and embodying another proposal to defendant to become the firm's "surgeon associate" for six months at a monthly salary of Mex. \$400 together with

b. One third of collections made from any new patients or other business introduced by you into the firm.

c. One third of the fees collected for any operations performed by you.

PROPOSAL AND COUNTER.

The proposal contained six main paragraphs the last of which was the one first above quoted which would preclude defendant from practicing in Shanghai and vicinity for five years. These two communications were answered by defendant handing to the first plaintiff a letter (Ex. B) dated

February 1 containing a counter proposal, in part, and so far as material here, as follows:

"In reply to request, Dr. Martin hereby has the honour to confirm conversation with Dr. Ransom and Dr. Street upon terms and conditions agreeable to him, in the proposed association with their esteemed firm.

In addition to the conditions referred to in Drs. Ransom and Street's letter under date of January 31, 1920, Dr. Martin wishes to add the following:

1.—Beginning February 1, 1920, Dr. Martin is to be associated with Drs. Ransom and Street as surgeon of the firm.

2.—Within a period of six months, Dr. Martin will decide and give definite answer to a pending proposition by Drs. Ransom and Street for his succession to Dr. Street as a member of the firm.

4.—During this period of six months Dr. Martin is to receive one third of the surgical and medical fees for services rendered by him and a monthly salary of four hundred Mexican dollars excepting during the month of February and March in consideration of a special agreement of the firm with Dr. Hunt."

The letter as received contained some matter to which the leading plaintiff objected and which was thereupon "eliminated by mutual consent." But even after such elimination the terms of defendant's letter differed considerably from that of plaintiffs, especially as regards the compensation defendant was to receive. For while plaintiffs' offer was

"b. One third of collections made from any new patients or other business introduced by you into the firm.

c. One third of the fees collected for any operations performed by you."

defendant asked "One third of the surgical and medical fees for services rendered by him."

for all patients whether new or old and whether introduced by defendant into the firm or not. In other words his letter was a counter proposal and required an absolute and unconditional acceptance by plaintiffs before becoming a contract.

NO TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT.

Plaintiffs' counsel state in their brief that

"Dr. Ransom told Dr. Martin that he accepted, on behalf of the firm, all of the terms and conditions in his additional letter of February 1."

But we do not find any testimony to just that effect. Only one of the plaintiffs was present when the letters were exchanged. He testifies that he said "this letter (Ex. B) seems to confirm my letter (Ex. A) to you"; that defendant replied "practically it does"; and that plaintiff said: "Very well, then, we will accept the terms of this letter and consider the agreement closed." In other words, according to plaintiff's version, he accepted defendant's counter proposal on condition that it confirmed the original proposal which, as we have seen, it did not; and the same plaintiff later states that he understood the counter proposal to confine defendant's portion of the fees to "new patients" which were really not mentioned therein. Clearly, then, plaintiff's mind had not met defendant's as regards the counter proposal and

the latter was not actually assented to by plaintiff. This was further shown subsequently.

Plaintiffs' typist testifies regarding this interview but apparently knew nothing of an acceptance. After detailing the delivery of Ex. B, she was asked:

Q. Was there anything else said?

A. No. Dr. Ransom said, "Well, this is about the same what we wrote." He said, "Yes, practically so." Dr. Martin said that.

Q. Was anything else said by Dr. Ransom?

A. Well, Dr. Ransom—not that I can remember. I should say—that is all I know."

Defendant's version of the episode is as follows:

"Q. Now, you have heard what Dr. Ransom has testified as to the further conversation that took place, and also what the stenographer says. What can you say as to that? Is it correct?

A. That is not correct.

Q. Will you say what actually did take place?

A. After the clause was inserted—the "as much as possible" clause—and the other clause of mine, was stricken out and I had initialed it, Dr. Ransom signed his proposal and I signed my counter-proposal, and the letters were exchanged.

Q. Is that all that took place?

A. That is all that took place."

Later, he declares that he never received an unqualified acceptance of his counter proposal.

A CONTRACT OF SOME SORT.

Nevertheless defendant seems to have believed that he had a contract of some sort; for he entered the service of plaintiffs in the capacity of "surgeon associate" and in later correspondence he speaks of "my contract." But we very much doubt whether he ever believed or imagined that he had entered into a contract which prevented him from practising medicine within one hundred miles of Shanghai for five years after leaving plaintiffs. That, as we have seen, was the last clause of plaintiff's proposal. There is no hint that it was ever specifically referred to in the verbal negotiations, and it is nowhere mentioned in the rather extensive correspondence which followed. Defendant's own explanation is that he considered said clause, with others in plaintiffs' letter of January 31, held in abeyance until he should decide whether to accept plaintiffs' other proposal (which he later declined) to join their firm. Whether he was justified in so considering is another question but in order to find that defendant's mind met plaintiffs' as to this clause we must believe that a man of mature years and experience, who had been a member of a medical college faculty, deliberately, in consideration of a six months' arrangement with plaintiffs, excluded himself for five years thereafter from a field whose possibilities he had only begun to examine. These considerations must also weigh in determining what defendant meant by "my contract" and with what understanding he entered plaintiffs' employ. It is quite true that an offer may be accepted by conduct as well as by words, but it

must be remembered that the offer pending when defendant undertook service for plaintiffs was the former's counter proposal which he certainly could not accept by his own conduct.

A SLIGHT MISUNDERSTANDING.

On the other hand it is equally clear that plaintiffs continued in the belief, entertained, as we have seen, from the start, that they had a contract which embodied only the terms as to compensation of their original offer. In connexion with his work for them, defendant kept and turned in monthly a "working sheet" containing an itemized account of the services rendered by him. When the March working sheet had been received on April 2, the leading plaintiff wrote thereon:

"Dr. Martin is entitled to one third of fees for all operations performed by him and one third of fees from any new patient introduced into firm by him."

On the same date, the same plaintiff wrote defendant as follows:

"I am afraid there has been a slight misunderstanding regarding your share of fees. In our letter of January 21 under "Remuneration b," you will see that you are to receive one third collections from our patients whom you bring into the firm. The salary of \$400 Mex. per month is intended partly as compensation for incidental work you do for the firm and associates. I hope this will clear all doubts on the subject."

This was more than two months after the exchange of letters. In the latter part of May the other plaintiff sent defendant a memorandum which contained the following:

"Dr. Martin must realize that the firm agreement (i.e. Ex. A) as originally approved by me is the only workable one. The present situation is impossible and neither Dr. R. nor myself can avail ourselves of Dr. Martin's services although we are paying for them."

Thus far, then, the legal dialogue between the parties had proceeded as follows:

Plaintiffs: If you will become our "surgeon associate," etc., we will give you a monthly salary of \$400 and "one third of collections made from any new patients or other business introduced by you into the firm."

Defendant: "In addition" I must have one third of the surgical and medical fees for services rendered by me.

Plaintiffs: That "is impossible" our original proposition "is the only workable one."

BOTH PARTIES AT ODDS.

Clearly then, the minds of the parties had not met as to the important item of compensation. Whether they had failed to meet on other features of the counter proposal, we need not stop to consider for the law is that

"If there is any part of it in regard to which the minds of the parties have not met, the entire instrument is a nullity, as to all its clauses."

It is true that afterward, on May 31, 1920 plaintiffs wrote defendant as follows:

"Upon the subjects of fees we may again say that it was not our original

intention that you should receive, in addition to your salary of Mexican Dollars Four Hundred (Mex. \$400) per month, one-third of the fees for services rendered by you to our patients, our idea being that the salary referred to was to be paid for the purpose of compensating you for such services outside of surgical operations, and we were firmly of opinion that you so understood the arrangement. We did intend, of course, that you should receive in addition to your salary above mentioned, one-third (1/3) of the fees collected from new patients or business introduced by you into the firm, and also one-third (1/3) of the fees collected for any surgical operations performed by you.

The amendments which you proposed, however, and which we accepted, gave you one-third (1/3) of the fees collected for surgical and medical services rendered by you, in addition to your salary of Mexican Dollars Four Hundred (Mex. \$400) per month, and you entered our service upon these conditions as per our letter of January 31, 1920, as amended by your letter of February 1, 1920."

But by insisting previously on their original proposal, plaintiffs had not only failed to accept the counter proposal: they had definitely rejected it. For such is the effect of proposing new or different terms.

NO EXPRESS CONTRACT.

The letter of May 31 must, therefore, be treated as a new offer i.e. of "one third of the fees collected"—which defendant was at liberty to accept or reject as he saw fit. He chose to reject it because he wanted one third of the fees charged. Whether this was a reasonable condition does not concern us. The condition is important only in disclosing that when, about a week later, defendant severed his connexion with plaintiff, there was still no express contract. Whatever legal rights had arisen out of their relations were implied and recovery was limited to a *quantum meruit*.

The extreme remedy of injunction is never applied to enforce a contract whose terms are doubtful. Much less is it available where the parties never reached the stage of a contract. Our conclusion from the whole evidence here is that while each party believed in good faith that he had a contract, each believed that he had a different one from that which the other believed in and that the mutuality which the law requires in such cases was therefore lacking.

NE SUTOR ULTRA CREPIDAM.

These worthy disciples of Esculapius attempted to cover a rather technical and complicated subject by a legal document of their own making, without expert assistance; and they achieved about the same measure of success as a lawyer would in performing a major operation. The prophylactic treatment of having a lawyer draft the contract not being applied, a comatose condition set in which was contemplated and desired by neither party. We have consequently no alternative but to dismiss the bill with costs to plaintiffs.

THE CASE OF MR. BOULON

Committed for Trial

After numerous sessions in the preliminary hearing of the case of U. S. (Messrs. Gaston, Williams & Wigmore, Inc.) v. Ferdinand G. Boulon, Mr. F. J. Schuhl, Commissioner of the United States Court for China, issued an order on Saturday binding accused over for hearing before his Honour Judge C. S. Lobingier in the higher court, bail being allowed in Tls. 10,000.

Mr. W. S. Fleming, special assistant U. S. District Attorney, who also acted for the complainant firm, prosecuted, while Mr. R. S. Haskell defended Mr. Boulon.

Mr. Arthur Jones, accountant of Messrs. Gaston, Williams & Wigmore, was recalled to the stand and cross-examined by Mr. Haskell in regard to the exchange purchase contracts involved in the case. Witness admitted that the firm was at one time badly pressed for money and that it had been necessary on one occasion to cable to New York to meet the payroll. In answer to a question of Mr. Haskell's as to whether or not the firm had bought exchange amounting to £125,000 when, as a matter of fact, the exchange orders did not call for more than £75,000, witness stated that he would have to consult the records.

HE COULD NOT "SQUEAL."

Witness, continuing, stated that any loss in exchange would have been charged to Mr. Boulon's personal account. Mr. Boulon, he stated, had never attempted to withhold any information asked for by his department. He admitted that some of the contracts were for his own account and that some of Mr. Boulon's accounts should have been charged to him. Witness admitted that he knew that exchange purchase deals were irregular but his own concern in them prevented him from making a report.

Mr. Schuhl: Would it be possible for the manager to deal in exchange on the firm's credit, retaining the profits himself and charging the losses to the Company?—Only by passing fictitious entries through the books. To do this somebody in the office would have to be working in collusion with him.

Could a man in Mr. Boulon's position not charge the contracts to whoever he pleased without you or the bank knowing?—No.

If purchased in the name of the firm, how could it be charged up?—There is always an account to which such exchange could be charged but the first auditor coming along would discover it.

Mr. Fleming:—That is precisely what did happen.

Re-examined by Mr. Fleming, witness said that Mr. Boulon had never to his knowledge charged up a loss to the firm. He knew to a certain extent what Mr. Boulon was doing in exchange and he

winked at them because he was involved in them himself and "could not squeal."

THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT.

William H. Swift, Jr., vice president of the corporation, said he arrived in Shanghai on September 30 to look into the company's affairs and upon investigation found Mr. Boulon's accounts out of order. Evidence of an interview with Mr. Boulon at the Astor House after the information had been filed against Mr. Boulon was then given. He (Mr. Boulon) had admitted that eight of the ten counts were correct and asked that the matter should be kept out of the courts. The other two counts he claimed was G. \$30,000 due to him by the firm and, therefore, he proposed this as a basis of settlement. This, however, was not accepted.

After Mr. Charles H. Ferguson, the acting manager of the Shanghai branch of the firm, had confirmed this in his testimony, Mr. Haskell asked for a continuance in order that a certain Sung might be called as a witness for the defence. This was not allowed by the Court.

The Court then made the following order:—

"It having appeared to the satisfaction of the Court that the crime of embezzlement has been committed, it is hereby ordered that the defendant be held to answer to the United States Court for China on Counts 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 10 in the information. Counts 7, 8 and 9 will be dismissed."

MR. BOULON'S CIVIL CLAIM

Substantial Sums at Stake

Messrs. Gaston, Williams & Wigmore, Inc., Far Eastern Division, have been named defendants in a civil suit filed on Thursday in the United States Court for China by their former manager, Mr. Ferdinand G. Boulon.

Mr. R. S. Haskell is appearing for Mr. Boulon, and Mr. W. S. Fleming is acting on behalf of Messrs. Gaston, Williams & Wigmore, Inc.

Mr. Boulon is claiming for the sums of G.\$15,000 and Shanghai Tls. 14,220.98 alleged to be due to him for unpaid salary, commissions, profits, and loans alleged to have been advanced to the defendant company, plus interest. These sums, he alleges, the company has refused and still refuses to pay. Following are a list of the items which make up the claim:—

Unpaid salary, Tls. 4,880.95; commissions, G.\$15,000; loans \$1,400.00 and Tls. 12,964.19 and unpaid exchange contract profits about Tls. 23,617.25. A further item is:—"Credited by mistake to Yeh Kong-yung Tls. 12,250.54."

Without a complete accounting between plaintiff and the defendant for the period, January 1, 1919, to

November 30, 1920, the plaintiff states that he is without remedy at law, and he prays that the court make an accounting of all the accounts for salaries, etc., due to him from defendant and of all debts charged to plaintiff by defendant. He admits having drawn the sum of Tls. 25,303.77 from defendants, but alleges that the balance is still due and owing him.

THE HONGKEW TRAGEDY

American Engineer Sent to Gaol

The case of U. S. v. Jack Leo Welch, the American engineer who was charged with the murder of a woman named Liang Voong-wo, was continued before Judge C. S. Lobingier in the U. S. Court for China last Friday afternoon.

Major C. P. Holcomb, District Attorney, prosecuted on behalf of the U. S. Government, and Mr. P. M. Linebarger defended.

In opening the case for the defence, Mr. Linebarger called Welch, the defendant, to the stand. Accused gave his age as 28 and stated that he was a marine engineer by profession. He arrived in Shanghai last Friday on board the str. West Henshaw, on which boat he was employed as second engineer. He was married and, besides his wife, had a widowed mother and little boy to support.

He left his ship with two shipmates at 7 p.m. on Saturday on board a sampan. He admitted carrying a pistol.

Mr. Linebarger: Was it safe?—It was safe at all times except when you put a shell in the barrel.

USED TO ARMS.

Witness was experienced in the use of guns. In fact, he had used guns since he was a boy of 14 years of age.

Continuing, accused stated that after he and his mates had visited the New World they went to No. 207 Fearon Road. He left after 20 minutes with the intention of visiting the town and found a ricscha coolie to take him. The coolie, however, took him to the Trenches, where he stayed less than half an hour. On his way back to No. 207 Fearon Road, he passed through some dark streets which he considered dangerous. He then released the cocking piece of the pistol as a precaution against danger. As soon as he got back to No. 207 he went upstairs and knocked at Mr. Bartt's door. Bartt told him to go to sleep, whereupon he turned back, and met the deceased girl. He awoke about 6.30 o'clock next morning. Deceased went downstairs. Accused then called out to Mr. Bartt, who asked him to "come over." The girl came back and began dancing and skylarking with him just outside the room.

IT WENT OFF.

"Just then I put my hand on my gun and playfully pointed it at

her. And that is all. It went off," continued accused, who broke down with emotion.

Mr. Linebarger: Was the room a dark one or well lighted one?—It was dark.

What did the girl say to you?—She said: "What for you shoot me?" And I said nothing.

Court: Is this the same gun?—Yes.

Did you pull the trigger?—Yes, I did. I overlooked the fact that there was a shell in it.

After an eloquent plea for dismissal and leniency by Mr. Linebarger and Major Holcomb's reply, accused was sentenced to two years' imprisonment and fined \$500.

THE SAILOR AND THE BANANAS

An International Incident

In the Japanese Police Court on Tuesday, Mr. Toyado, the Magistrate, gave his decision in the case of two Japanese naval men, a seaman and petty officer, and a civilian, who were charged in connexion with a disturbance which occurred in Hongkew a fortnight ago. The sailors were handed over to the naval authorities to be dealt with, and the civilian was severely cautioned and dismissed.

Since the case has been the subject of "sensational" reports in the Japanese newspapers, it may be well perhaps again to make brief reference to the circumstances. According to a Shanghai telegram to the Osaka "Asahi," the bluejacket was "brutally assaulted" by a foreign policeman, and "received serious injuries." The affair is described as a "gross insult," and as having been made the subject of an official Japanese protest to the Municipal Council. The report adds that the matter was kept "absolutely secret."

As to this latter mis-statement, it may be remembered that we published an account of the case a week ago. The evidence was very fully gone into, three days being occupied in the hearing. The evidence for the prosecution was that the sailor took two bananas from a Chinese hawkker without paying for them, and a heated discussion naturally arose, eventuating in a foreign constable inviting both parties to accompany him to the police station. On the way to the station, the bluejacket drew a clasp knife, whereupon the constable drew his baton and gave him a blow. The constable's statement was that he intended to strike the man on the shoulder, but the sailor ducked and so received a blow on the head. A special adjournment of the case was demanded in order that corroborative evidence might be given by an independent witness on this point. The prosecution alleged that while the sailor was being taken to the police station, the Japanese petty officer and the civilian attempted to rescue him from the police.

ALLEGED DISORDERLY HOUSE

Morphia and "The Trenches"

On Tuesday lodging-housekeeper was brought up before the Mixed Court on remand, charged with a breach of his foreign lodging house licence.

Det.-Insp. Reeves, who prosecuted, said that the defendant was the holder of a licence for a foreign lodging house at Nos. 21 and 38 Miller Road. Acting upon information received, witness took out a search warrant in order to search the premises for morphia. On October 22 he visited the premises, but the defendant was not at home. Witness asked the inmates for the register and was shown the book now produced in Court. The accused was the keeper of a foreign lodging house, and in the house witness found 12 girls, barmaids from "The Trenches." There were 12 girls at No. 21 Miller Road and four in No. 38. On October 22 witness, accompanied by Sergt. Moore and Det.-Sgt. Conduit, visited the house No. 38 and on entering was accosted by an American citizen, who was under the influence of morphia. He was laughing out loudly and in a state of collapse. On the ground floor they found a girl from "The Trenches" who was under the influence of morphia. She was from the Mascot Bar and was also in a bad condition. There were also two other girls from "The Trenches" in the house. While witness was there, 12 sailors came in, but on seeing witness and his companions they went away. Witness had been instructed by the Commissioner of Police to ask the Court to close the house. If the Court required further evidence, he would have to ask for a remand, in order to secure the attendance of Sergt. Moore and Det.-Sgt. Conduit.

Mr. Goldring, who appeared for the defence, said he had no objection to a remand, and the accused was accordingly remanded for one week, bail being allowed of \$100 cash security.

ENGINEER'S CLAIM FOR DAMAGES

Injured on Board Ship

Proceedings have been taken in the Mixed Court by Mr. O. S. Andersen, a Swedish subject, against the Yui Fong Steamship Co., for the recovery of Tls. 11,000 under somewhat unusual circumstances. At present, the case stands adjourned for the submission of further particulars by plaintiff, at defendants' request.

According to the statement of claim, plaintiff was engaged by the company in November, 1919, as second engineer on the str. Hwashin, and early this year renewed his agreement for a period of six months at a salary of \$280 per month. On March 15, plaintiff was

very seriously wounded when on duty on board the steamer, the result being that he is now completely deaf in one ear and partially deaf in the other, and will no longer be able to work as a ship's engineer. Up till August 31, the company paid plaintiff's salary and guaranteed his doctor's expenses, but on this date they informed him that his services would no longer be required. Plaintiff accordingly claims Tls. 250, salary for September, Tls. 1,000 for wrongful dismissal, and Tls. 10,000 compensation for injuries received.

Defendants say they are in the position only of agents for the Chinese Government.

GERMAN DYES

Important Mixed Court Case

The question whether the German merchant, or his representative, has an exclusive claim upon the special trade mark of goods disposed of to the Allies under the reparation terms of the Peace Treaty has come up for decision by the Mixed Court. On Thursday proceedings were continued in a case in which a Dutch firm, Messrs. Lambooy & Co., seek to restrain Chau Shao-yuin a Chinese merchant of Shanghai, from using the "Horse and Lion" trade mark of certain dyes for which plaintiffs claim sole right of agency on behalf of a German firm. There was also a criminal charge against defendant for having infringed the trade mark.

Mr. Goldring appeared for plaintiffs, and Dr. Mei for defendant, and Mr. E. B. Rose watched the case on behalf of Messrs. du Pont & Co.

Mr. Goldring described the case as being one of great importance to the commercial community. He asked for an adjournment to enable him to procure a certain document which was an essential part of proof that his clients had an absolute right to the trade mark in question.

IMPORTED BY A AMERICAN-FIRM.

Dr. Mei characterized the civil proceedings as vexatious, and the criminal case as malicious. The charged was not *bona fide* he said (Mr. Goldring vigorously protesting). Complainants knew in September that the dyes in question were being imported by an American firm. The Dutch Consul made representations to the American Consul in this respect, but nothing was then said about his client being concerned in the matter.

Mr. Tenney, the American Assessor, said the question was not so much as to who imported the goods, as it was one of determining right to the trade mark.

Mr. J. C. Dupuy, a partner to the firm of Lambooy & Co., gave evidence that his company were the authorized agents in north China for the "Horse and Lion" dyes. The trade mark was registered

with the Customs, and had been so registered for 25 or 30 years. It was brought to his notice during the present month—that others were using this chop. He himself saw empty casks being taken into a godown for re-packing.

In answer to Dr. Mei, witness said that Messrs. Lambooy & Co., were agents for a German firm, and had been acting on their behalf since September, 1919. He was getting full power of attorney, but at present he had no document which gave him sole right to the trade mark.

The Court dismissed the criminal charge, and adjourned the hearing of the civil proceedings.

REPARATIONS.

Mr. Rose asked the Court's permission to make a statement. The dyes in question, he said, were part of certain dyes taken over from Germany by the Reparations Commission under the terms of the treaty of peace. They were disposed of through various channels, and in due course American firms exported some of the dyes to China and disposed of them to Chinese in the ordinary course of business, the goods retaining the original German chop. Complainant had stated that he was agent for, and held his authority from, the existing German manufacturer. From the facts of the case, it was clear that the question for the Court to decide was whether or not Germany, or German firms, could interfere with or prevent the disposal in the markets of the world, of goods made over to the Reparations Commission: whether they could prevent the sale of these dyes on the grounds of infringement of their trade mark and privileges.

MIXED COURT NOTES

A Warning to Legal Touts

At the Mixed Court on Monday morning, Mr. Kuan (Magistrate) and Mr. Blackburn (British Assessor) sitting, a general warning was given to those Chinese who frequent the Court for the purpose of obtaining business of a litigious nature for those by whom they are employed for that purpose. The Assessor remarked that as there were a few lawyers and interpreters present in Court, he wished to state that during the morning the Court had felt compelled to suspend a Chinese interpreter for a period of three months for touting for legal business. This had become a common practice. Chinese frequented the premises of the Court to ascertain what summonses had been issued and then endeavoured to obtain business for their employers. This was an offence that the Court would not tolerate, and one that had a tendency to increase litigation. The case the Court had dealt with that morning had been treated leniently, but any future case of a similar nature, that was brought to the attention of the Court, would be severely dealt with.

AN IMPUDENT FRAUD.

An unemployed Chinese was charged with having, about 4.50 p.m. on the 14th instant, fraudulently issued tickets to divers persons for admission to the New World.

P.-C. Beer stated that about 4.50 p.m. on the 14th instant, the accused was brought to Sinza Station by the manager of the New World and a Chinese watchman. The complainants said that a disturbance had been caused at the New World by the accused, who had been selling tickets of admittance to the place for 70 cents each, whereas the price of admission at the entrance was only 20 cents. The tickets were false, and they were dated October 5. There were four men in the gang, 130 tickets had been printed, and each of the gang had received a portion for sale.

A Chinese watchman from the New World gave evidence that a number of men had given trouble there, and he had ascertained that false tickets had been sold to them. Witness went outside, saw accused selling the tickets, and took him inside to the manager.

The manager of the New World said that the tickets sold by the accused had not been issued by the management of the New World.

The accused said that a friend gave him 25 tickets to sell at 70 cents each, and he was to hand over the money to his friend on the 20th instant.

Accused was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment.

ANOTHER CHAUFFEUR IN TROUBLE.

A chauffeur was charged with having recklessly driven motor-car No. 3310 on Bubbling Well Road on the 14th instant, to the common danger. He was further charged with having, with an interim permit, issued to him to drive motor-car No. 572, driven motor-car No. 3310, contrary to condition No. 1 of the license.

Chinese P. C. 510 having given evidence as to the chauffeur being handed over to him by a foreigner, Mr. A. J. Clements stated that at 11.30 a.m. on the 14th instant he was walking, along Bubbling Well Road when the accused, who was driving a car in the same direction—east to west—ran in to him, striking him on the hip with the right side of the mudguard. Accused was driving on the wrong side of the road.

In reply to the Assessor, witness said that the accused had on his brakes and had more or less pulled up when the car struck him (witness). The car went on for about three lengths. Witness had no idea why the car was on the wrong side of the road. The accident happened practically opposite the Star Garage. There was another driver in the car. Witness thought accused was learning to drive, as he had no permit.

Accused said he was driving to the side of the road at the time of the accident in order to get some food. He had a permit to drive, but not for the car he was then driving.

A fine of \$15 was imposed.

The Book Page

NOTES BY THE WAY

Mark Twain

All who read at all know something of Mark Twain—Samuel Langhorne Clemens. The mass of them in answer to a question would call him a writer of funny books. A fair proportion would go much farther. Remembering the Mississippi stories in which he depicted strikingly, truthfully and at times poetically a community apart, and passages from, to take an instance, "The Man that Corrupted Hadleyburg," they would recognize him as a shrewd and sympathetic judge of the weaknesses he shared with his fellow men—one who could draw tears as well as laughter. Some would add that he set down whatever was in his mind on the spur of the moment, and that in hasty comments on what he did not understand his ridicule suggested an absence of sensibility and recoiled on himself; and that—great humorist that he incontestably was—he was often forsaken by that sense of proportion which, outraged, is the basis of humour. His popularity and generosity were matters of common talk.

To read the "Letters of Mark Twain" (by Albert Bigelow Paine) is to modify many previous conceptions, a writer in "the Times" Literary supplement observes. It is true that they confirm all, but they introduce new elements which it is difficult to reconcile with the first. Mark Twain is to be obscurely seen in them as a deeper, more complex, character than any he created—obscurely, because any opinion of his, however violently it is professed, is as likely as not to be contradicted a few pages later.

A GREAT CHARACTER.

To efface all prejudices and prepossessions before coming to this book is to find a most generous man a prey to money troubles that were the appropriate punishment of something very like greed. The apparently reckless scoffer is the most laborious of writers, throwing into the fire twice what he publishes—always revising in the teeth of his own dictum that "it is perilous to revise while under way." The revolutionist who condones the assassination of Tsars has nothing but good to say of the royalties he hobnobs with, and tirades against the democratic government of his own country and the police of San Francisco of which he has knowledge at first hand. The fearless champion who attacked abuses without counting the cost turns out to be a pacifist not only in theory but in practice. After two weeks in the Army of the South, Lieutenant Clemens resigned and made off to Nevada; he had been

one, says Mr. Paine, of "a resolute band which might have done very well, only it rained a good deal, which made soldiering disagreeable and hard." And the joyous companion who set the table in a roar?

THE MAN AND THE MYSTERY.

He maintains—defiantly, it is true—that he is never unhappy or uncomfortable, but the tone of this book, especially of the latter part, suggests the contrary. The optimist who could never resist investing in any wild cat scheme reveals himself despairing of humanity. And against the coarsenesses, admitted even by his partial biographer, is to be set proof after proof of the most spontaneous and moving delicacy of feeling. Mark Twain was a great many things besides a writer; Mr. Paine suggests that he was "a great teacher, moralist, philosopher—the greatest, perhaps, of his age"; and he was admittedly soldier, miner, prospector, pilot, "jour" printer, lecturer, publisher, and company promoter. There is in this list the material for a biography in a dozen capacities, and it does not include that in which his attainment was highest—he is one of the great lovers of history; his relationship with his wife, the deepest human relationship, is so beautiful that one welcomes his misfortunes for the light they throw on it. One can no more dogmatize about his character or resolve its contradictions than one can sum up a deep sea in the tropics—flashing and filled with life or storm—tossed on the surface and yet a body with what below lies chill and dark over sunken wrecks.

YANKEE DOODLE

A Bright American in China

By Dr. Arthur Smith

CHINA THE MYSTERIOUS AND MARVELLOUS. By Victor Murdock. Illustrated. Fleming H. Revell Co. New York, 1920. Pp. 310.

The author of this book was long, a journalist, and several times a member of the American House of Representatives. He is at present Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission. He visited China during the presidency of Li Yuan-hung, specializing on the province of Szechuan, to which, with the journeys involved, most of the 45 chapters are devoted.

His style is that of the 'mandarin colloquial' of the "Wichita Daily Eagle," of which for nine years he was the manager.

N. B.—It is respectfully suggested that no "Britisher" should attempt to read this work, for (a) he would not be able to compre-

hend its technicalities, and (b) because the author is "100 per cent. American," "and then some." The reader will learn—though this revelation is reserved for one of the concluding pages—that "the Britisher sniffs and sneers at Americans and their wares, because he is afraid of us I don't blame them for being scared, for we have plunged in lickity split and when it comes to business we are some steppers." Eventually nothing will stop them "from being the prize package among the vendors of the world."

THINGS TO REMEMBER.

In Japan the author found every city to be a hash of Rudyard Kipling and Marco Polo, and just walking about you get decidedly woozy in your thinking machine. A servant is called a "boy" and with a few exceptions it is hopeless to get anything through his noggin. To kill oneself on the doorstep of an enemy puts the kibosh on him all right. The city of Ichang is on a regular rip-snorting boom, and if they ever get any cars on their railroad it will be a cracker-jack place. The Yangtzu river is always going off on the wildest, eerie-eyed, fire-breathing shinning that it is possible for anybody outside a lunatic asylum to imagine. The devil is at home in the dear old rantankerous, rebellious, man-strangling, boat-wrecking, boisterous Yangtzu. A smoke-stack has been known to knock feng-shui out of kilter. The Chinese calendar is catawumpus with ours. Royal blood is history's most colossal congame.

"CHINESE TO THE LAST."

There seems to be no evidence that either before, during, and after his visit, Mr. Murdock ever read, saw, or even heard of any book whatsoever on China. On the contrary he simply tackles China, the Mysterious and Marvellous "on his own," and lets his readers into the secret. He is indebted to friendly and genial captains of steamers and to a few Frenchmen for details of many important revelations, the narratives of which, for example the Hankow Revolution, and the Szechuan railways, must not be too closely examined. The Empress Dowager who "remained Chinese to the last" was about to trust the Boxers when their invulnerability was tested in her presence, but she (prudently) "called in an American who was counsel to her, a man still living in Peking, and told him her experience" (Observe that she did *not* call in a "Britisher.") "Let me do the shooting," said the American. The Empress ordered the Boxers back for another trial. But they fled. (Yet the legend of the Siege in Peking still survives.) There is a somewhat

full account of the founding of the Ming Dynasty. The first Ming Emperor had a wife called (by the somewhat misleading name of) Ma. He had 71 other wives but Ma was the only one he cared to be buried with. "Ming cleaned out everything in China and set up his empire, and then went to work to fix up a private graveyard which would last. . . He had artists carve critters in pairs—camels kneeling and standing, elephants the same, also horses and lions. . . There they stand to this day. There they will stand for the next ten thousand years."

THINGS ONE SHOULD KNOW.

Unlike other investigators the author finds that China has four thousand years' incrustation of caste, and it just naturally persists. His coolies were of a higher caste than the onlookers. The Manchus in King Chow were the last word in caste. Their self-sufficiency was not a sudden acquisition but a habit 300 years old—not of five generations but of fifteen.

(Those who are able to condense 15 generations into 300 years might be allowed "caste" if they want it!)

There is no "woman question" in China. Farmers generally do not borrow money, for for hundreds of years they have maintained a form of farm credit.

The population of Nanking is 400,000 persons—that of Sian fu one million. Chen Chow, Honan, is the oldest city in China. It started 3,000 B.C. Silk was invented there 2,500 B.C. by a woman named Yuen-fi, one of the wives of the third Emperor Hwang-ti. The old man himself (Hwang-ti) introduced carts and boats into China. There are few really old men in China, and one 70 years old is rare. (p. 154) but the most interesting figures in China (p. 165) are the old patriarchs seen everyday.

There was a General named Twang Fang. "Fang was beloved of the missionaries of the Yang-tzu valley." "Fang was a Manchu." But he lost his head at Tzu Chow. Many years ago the French nation sent a troop of soldiers to Peking to proffer France's friendship. The Chinese seized the soldiers, stripped them, and then sliced them with sharp knives leaving them to die in the sun. The French sent another expedition and destroyed the summer palace. The Empress Dowager built a new summer place, but it cost her dynasty the crown, and established the republic. Sun Yat-sen being appointed Minister of Communications had a special car with a big glass map of China, a pot of paint and a sponge. He was always drawing imaginary railroad lines and rubbing them out again. It is as certain as sunrise that he will be led out and beheaded or shot by a file of soldiers, who will feel afterward that the wrong thing was done. (Will Mr. Sun please take notice?)

FAMILY BLESSINGS

CONCERNING SOLICITORS. By One of Them. With a Preface by the Rt. Hon. Augustine Birrell, K.C. Chatto and Windus. 6s. net.

As Mr. Birrell reminds us, in his delightful Preface to this sagacious and gently-humorous little book, people ought to remember the maxim of Lord Hennen that "an honourable Solicitor is a family blessing." Yet in spite of the invaluable work done by solicitors, privately and in public, they are not popularly regarded as constituting one of the heroic professions. This is largely due, as Mr. Birrell suggests, to two facts: firstly, the dubious parts played in literature and the drama by persons described as "Attorneys"; and, secondly, the fog in the average man's mind as to the functions of a "Solicitor of the High Court," his duties and his responsibilities.

The remark of a Chairman of Committees of the House of Commons: "The two great evils of this country are taxes and attorneys," though uttered in 1854 before the Judicature Acts (*circa* 1875) became the dividing line between the old and the new legal world, still expresses a popular belief which also perpetuates itself in such stock epithets as "petty," "prowling," and "pettifogging." The public does not know that there have been, and still are, great Solicitors as well as great Barristers—men equally distinguished for their large ability, high sense of honour, and profound legal learning with any of the famous advocates who have lived in the full illumination of publicity. Mr. Birrell gives two examples from the experience of his early days in the law—the late Mr. Bateson, of Liverpool, "who was able to nip more litigation in the bud than ever found its way into the Chambers of the most eminent and hardworked of Counsel," and Sir John Hollams, who "long occupied the same position in London, and on his own very varied lines was as distinguished and useful a lawyer, though perhaps not so learned a jurisconsult, as Roundell Palmer or George Jessel."

WISE AND WITTY.

It is to be hoped that this entertaining book will have the effect of convincing the general public of the essential truth of Lord Hennen's compliment. The variety of a solicitor's work sounds interesting, but it involves rapid decisions. In passing it may be pointed out that a close student of the Peace Conference attributed Mr. Lloyd George's swift imperturbability in making decisions to the practice he had had as a small country solicitor, a legal maid-of-all-work, who might be required, at the urgent call of clients hanging on to a telephone, to sell a farm, settle a breach of promise, bury a client without relations, meet a blackmailer in the gate, and stop an imprudent marriage, all in one morning's work.

"THROUGH BOLSHEVIK RUSSIA"

A Socialist's Warning

It is most gratifying that in her book, "Through Bolshevist Russia" (Cassell and Co., 5s. net), Mrs. Snowden has "stuck to her guns"; she has not deviated an inch from the line she took up on her immediate return from Russia as a member of the British Labour Delegation. Her work, as a whole, cannot be regarded otherwise than in the light of the most damning and convincing indictment against—not so much the Soviet régime—but Soviet methods, which it has ever been our lot to analyze. In writing on Bolshevist Russia she has realized that no exaggeration could possibly be more terrible than the actual truth, says the "Morning Post."

THE GREAT EXPERIMENT.

From the outset Mrs. Snowden refused to be hoodwinked, and by her refusal has earned the cordial dislike of the Soviet authorities. On reading her chapter, "A Starving People," burdened as it is with heartrending incidents, one cannot help thinking that the term "the great experiment" which continually appears in her work is a misnomer for "the criminal experiment."

GILT-EDGED PROPAGANDA.

The most illuminating passage in the book is that which deals with the question of propaganda:—

From the Russian frontier to the end of our visit we were the Royal Family! . . . The theory was that we were . . . to have perfect freedom. As events transpired, we were everywhere accompanied by representatives of the authorities, who were sent, it was said . . . to protect us from counter-revolutionaries and Polish spies who might be lurking with bombs!

This excuse was childish on the face of it, and when Mrs. Snowden goes on to say,

it was believed, or the belief affected, that we had come in the spirit of full agreement with them, and it was frequently suggested. . . that "the representatives of the revolutionary working-class movement in Great Britain had come to bring greetings and assistance to the revolutionary Government of Russia,"

we can only conjecture that the delegation was exploited in every possible way.

Mrs. Snowden's warning of the world-menacing character of Bolshevist propaganda is one not to be ignored or treated in a half-hearted manner. From her many conversations with members of the Menshevik Party, clever men who are on the spot, it is noteworthy that one and all express the same views. The logic of their remarks is that the country is hurrying towards a state of autocracy which will result in the ultimate enslavement of all peoples.

The Woman's Page

By Cleopatra

ELOQUENCE IN SILENCE

"All the critics on earth cannot crush with their ban
One word that's in tune with the nature of man."—Lowell.

The dictionary has been nearly exhausted by writers of all ages in their descriptions of the beauties and benefits of silence. In no matter, however, do we think silence is less in evidence and more to be desired than in the practice—of shall we admit it and call it a habit—of "small talk". Whether it be in country, village or city; among the humble or in society; in the East or in the West; the common or garden variety of gossip is the curse of our lives.

The average woman is a much better conversationalist than the average man; but this gift of expression—even when carried to excess—does not cause the harm of which we speak. Whether it is due to our keen imagination, or to our eagerness for conclusions, or to our readiness to accept things as they appear instead of as they are—whatever the cause few of us women (the writer not excepted) are always and absolutely truthful. This is the source of the havoc of gossip.

CONTEMPTIBLE NOTHINGS.

We are people of action, and not content with living our own lives we want also to live the life of every one else. We cannot do this in the flesh, and so we try our hand as authors of drama. Sometimes comedy, most often farce. The deeds or misfortunes of others are our chief themes, around which we weave a drama of absorbing interest, giving to each actor his part, to be played as we feel it should be played. We are at once director and actor. (Would that we only were also the audience.) And when the curtain is rung down what a petty plot it was! Such small heroes; such innocent villains! It is no more than contemptible nothings that make up the average tattle drama which gossip produces in our midst. These "nothings" have their power, however, to hurt and blight. Dinah Craik referred to them as "that incessant babble of silvery waters which wears through the rockiest soil". And happiness is a fragile rock!

THE FIELDS OF LOVE.

Of all feeding grounds for the bird of gossip (I almost called it a culture), the fields of love, whether with or without matrimony, are the most abundant. Whether it is a budding love affair, a friendly companionship, an engagement, or a domestic misfortune, we mount for the chase as if it were a matter of our life and death, and never cease till we have pounced upon our quarry and dis-

membered it. It is truly a wonder that any young couple ever indulge the world with an announcement of their engagement when we see the unfortunate young woman commented on, interrogated, cajoled, condoled, and advised (both to herself and behind her back) on the subject of matrimonial probabilities and possibilities. Such situations should rightly give us cause to blush.

Every one of us has it in her power to mitigate the ravages of the little two-edged sword. But each must do it for herself. A few simple principles *adopted* would accomplish this. We are not infallible—we are human—and scarcely have the right, let alone the ability, to pass on the actions of our equally fallible friends. Cultivate the acquaintance of Truth. She is a delightful person who grows with the friendship. And then in matters which are not of our own vital concern there is always the possible alternative of silence! Remember what Cicero said—silence is not only one of the great arts of conversation, but there is even an eloquence in it.

DIANA THE HUNTRESS

Is ingenious man to be left wholly to the tender mercies of the predatory female? Alas! it would appear so. At Ascot Police Court the other day a prepossessing young fellow claimed the protection of the Court from the strenuous advances of a maiden who would insist in forcing her 53-year-old charms upon him.

Day and night she haunted and hunted him, sometimes keeping up the chase until 3 a.m. *Billets doux* innumerable were showered upon him, and at last, in despair, he appealed to the omnipotent one.

Did the magistrate come to his aid? Not a bit of it! In vain did the persecuted youth point out that he had never given the love-lorn maiden any encouragement—there was simply "nothing doing." With an attempt at wit, so-called, the cadi said. "You might marry her in the end!"

There's many a true word spoken in jest, and if the lady has quite made up her mind to marry the coy young Adonis he cannot escape from his destiny.

"Man is born to trouble (i.e., matrimony) as the sparks fly upward," and no court of law can save him from the woman who has marked him down as her prey. Diana the Huntress is inexorable and invincible, and she hunts with unerring instinct.

So it has ever been since Eve said to Adam: "Eat this pippin for my sake, darling, just to show how brave you are. I do so love bravery in your noble sex." That's exactly how the hunting is done to-

this day. And the worst thing about it all is that man has been fooled into thinking that he is the chaser when in reality he is the chased!

And if the police can't help them, how on earth can the world ever be made safe for celibacy?

A PEERLESS MERMAID

Now and then, at long intervals, there comes to the fore some contestant in athletics whose extraordinary skill enables him, or her, to attain all-around international precedence, notwithstanding the universal present-day tendency to specialize. Of this rare type is Miss Ethelda Bleibtrey, the peerless young mermaid of the New York Women's Swimming Association, a recently crowned Olympic champion. At the age of 18, after little more than two years of competition, she has assumed undisputed world leadership. More, she is admittedly the greatest swimmer of her sex ever developed.

Her recent triumph at the games in Antwerp is significant of her clean-cut leadership. Pitted against the topnotchers of all nations she not only won as she pleased the two swimming events held for women, at 100 and 300 meters, free style, literally outclassing her opponents, but without greatly exerting herself, and despite difficult conditions, she shattered by wide margins the Olympic records for the two distances, lowering the former from 1:19 4-5 to 1:13 3-5, and the latter from 4:43 2-5 to 4:34.

It may be recalled that when Miss Fannie Durack, the famous Australian water queen, visited the United States a year ago and was beaten conclusively by the American girl in the national 440-yard championship at Manhattan Beach, fellow-countrymen of Miss Durack attributed the outcome of the race to circumstances and remained totally unconvinced of Miss Bleibtrey's superiority. After the recent competition in Antwerp, however, the Australians had a different tale to tell and declared without reservation that the equal of the New York girl swimmer never has been seen.

Yet the success of Miss Bleibtrey at the classic meet served to emphasize her supremacy, rather than to establish it. Her previous work had done that. Ever since she rounded into form for the indoor season last Winter her racing was marked by an almost uninterrupted succession of record-breaking feats. Whether in pool or open water, in free style or back stroke swimming, and quite irrespective of distance, she never failed to hang up new standards if conditions were anything like normal. Lately Miss Bleibtrey's speed has not been tested to the

limit. She has won all races so easily that it has been unnecessary for her to put forth her best efforts. As a result there is keen speculation concerning what she could do under pressure.

One of the most interesting features of Miss Bleibtrey's career as a swimmer is the amazing physical benefit she has derived from the short period of competitive activity. At the time she took up the sport she was a frail, undeveloped lassie, actually slightly deformed from curvature of the spine. To-day one will look far to find a more robust specimen of young womanhood. Straight as an arrow, powerful, the bloom of perfect condition in her cheeks, she is the picture of health and vigour.

"DRESSED" TAILOR-MADES

The difficulty of securing a tailor-made suit which shall yet looked "dressed" enough for special occasions can be met by various subterfuges, most of which have very definite disadvantages. The use of fur in the summer is one method, and certain furs are being definitely set aside as summer furs. But while fashion reckes little of such incongruities as fur in the summer and chiffon in winter, yet a particular incongruity has only a certain innings, and furs, becoming and foolish as they often are in summer weather, may go out of fashion at any moment. Another method is to use taffetas or satin for the suit. This has much to recommend it, especially as taffetas is clean and cool at the same time. But it errs rather in the other direction and is apt to be too smart for nonspecial occasions.

A third way is the use of white sergo or white cloth. The disadvantages of this are obvious, and a white suit always needs a dark one to act as guard to it. It might be noted here that, contrary to the usual custom, it can be worn by old ladies to great advantage—particularly by those whose hair is grey or white. The white should be warm in tone and the suit made loosely and comfortably. Less luxurious people, however need a less specialized suit, and for this need some of the winter models provide.

The features which make a suit look "dressed" rather than useful are of course many, but chief among them are the sleeves and the collar. The ordinary man's sleeve of the tailor-made very easily has a hard appearance, and the ordinary seam on the shoulder is also a line which is trying to many figures. Some of the new models show what is almost the kimono sleeve again; others prefer the Raglan sleeve somewhat exaggerated. A third has the Spanish sleeve, opening bell-shaped at the bottom and left open or gathered into a close-braided cuff. Newest of all is perhaps a sort of Elizabethan sleeve, fitting closely over the

shoulder, but helling out widely immediately below it. Variety in sleeve, therefore, is one of the first features to look for.

The man's collar, again, is being eschewed in all but the severest tailor-mades. Coat collars this year are to be exaggerated still further, and they are being made to reach to the ears like a muffler or to spread out over the shoulders like a cape. A good many new coats fasten down the side this winter, and this affects the collar fastening, which also may be on the side, generally finished off with some striking buttons or braiding.

Fruit and Beauty

Fruit is the friend of beauty.

The beauties of the Courts of France knew this and ate fruit to the exclusion of much of the heavier food. It is a matter of court tradition that one beauty ate 30 oranges a day and nothing else for a long time. Her reward for this semi-fast was a complexion of brilliant clearness.

Bananas are helpful to those who wish to increase their flesh.

A handful of crushed strawberries is a tonic bath for the face. It is an astringent. The acid in the fruit tightens relaxed skin. The acid also tends to remove tan and freckles. A strawberry bath leaves the skin in a fine glow and imparts a sense of freshness.

A handfull of crushed water-

melon pulp performs the same cleaning service, and its effect is milder.

Of all the fruits the lemon is the most reliable aid to health and beauty. Lemon juice in the water is an excellent stomach bath. It cleanses the stomach of mucus, therefore is a good preparation for the day. Some people would rather forego brushing their teeth as taking that stomach bath each morning. It cleanses and bleaches the hands. It causes tan and freckles to fade. Lemon juice combined with equal parts of glycerine and spirits of camphor is an excellent bleach for the hands.

Over-Maternal Hens

Since man first began keeping poultry for eggs the problem of keeping a hen with the desire to set from "sitting" has engaged his attention. Ducking the hen was a crude and not altogether successful plan. Now an inventor has perfected a device that he warrants to keep the most maternally inclined hen from attempting to hatch door knobs and discarded golf balls.

It is a rubber ball with an opening through the centre, which is slipped up on one of the hen's legs so as to cover the joint. Frustration of her desire to set follows. She can't, and, therefore, the inventor claims, soon goes back to business as a layer of breakfast eggs.



Winter suit of wool velours. Long jacket with a lightly sloped fastening. Plain fronts, deep slashes, trimmed with rows of self buttons. Collar, bands and cuffs are of beaver. Material belt. Skirt drawn in inverted pleats on both sides. It has turned back tabs above rows of buttons.

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

IN HONOUR OF JOHNSON

The Doctor's Devotees at His Birthplace

The 211th anniversary of the birth of Dr. Johnson was observed with undiminished favour in his native city of Lichfield. The attendance of visitors was the largest recorded since the bi-centenary celebration in 1909.

Under the direction of Mr. W. A. Wood, chairman of the Birthplace Committee, the elder children from the schools of the city were conducted through Johnson's house, and its various treasures were explained to them. During the morning a laurel wreath was placed on the Doctor's statue in the Market Square.

In the Birthplace a plaster medalion portrait of the late Mr. Arthur B. Plant, an old chorister of Lichfield Cathedral, and the composer of the "Johnson" anthem, was unveiled. The anthem includes Dr. Johnson's last prayer, and this was sung from the steps of the Birthplace by the Lichfield Cathedral choir.

THE "LIVES OF THE POETS."

Lord Charnwood presided at the annual meeting of the Johnson Society in the afternoon, when Sir Norman Moore, president of the Royal College of Physicians, was installed in the presidential chair in succession to Sir Sidney Lee. In his address Sir Norman Moore said that of all Johnson's published works the one which gave most pleasure, in his opinion, was the "Lives of the Poets." Some of those poets were great men and some small, but nearly all were examples of the learning, the critical powers, the knowledge of human nature, the kindness is his fellow-creatures of the great man to whom their Society rightly gave perennial honour in his native city, and England perpetual veneration as the greatest master of English conversation.

In the evening a supper of Johnsonian fare was held at the Three Crowns Inn, where Johnson and Boswell were wont to stay upon their visits to Lichfield, and where Boswell has placed it on record that they "had a comfortable supper and got into high spirits."

In proposing the toast of "The Immortal Memory of Dr. Samuel Johnson," Sir Norman Moore, who has himself written 450 biographies for the Dictionary of National Biography, said that in Boswell's "Life of Johnson" they had the greatest biographical work in the English language.

Lord Charnwood said that although there was a sense in which

AUSTRALIA'S RIVERS

Freaks of Climate

With the several freaks of nature of which Australasia is the home, and which include such oddities as kiwis and kangaroos, the great Island continent of the group possesses what are probably the most capricious rivers in the world, says "Engineering." Nominally the continent boasts of magnificent waterways. They are most impressive on the map, and as drawn the length of only two or three of them together run into thousands of miles. But the maps are deceptive. For a large part of the year some of these great waterways dwindle to less than nothing in the way of streams, becoming reduced to a mere series of disconnected puddles. This naturally has handicapped the development of anything like inland navigation on a large scale, to the great loss of the interior. Yet in spite of every possible obstacle there is a very fair amount of river traffic, but it is attended by risks. The climate is so inconstant that if a boat gets caught by the falling water it may be years before enough comes down again to float her.

Years ago a steamer pursued a giddy career up the Darling, and branching off up the Paroo, continued its way on beyond the Queensland border. To-day the Paroo is shown on the map as a double-ended river without a mouth and, as often as not, it has nothing at all to give to the Darling throughout the year. The Darling itself is always up and down. One year towns on it will be endangered by floods which will stretch as far as the eye can reach. It was said to have attained a width on one occasion of 43 miles. For years afterwards the same places may be threatened by drought. The navigation season at the most is short; only two months in the upper reaches, and the boat which has risked an extra trip, or has ventured a little over far up stream makes a veritable steeplechase of it with the falling water over bars and banks dividing the deeper stretches, in her anxiety not to get left. And when left, of course it is a question when the water comes again, whether it will float at all, with its open seams.

they could not regard Johnson as one of the greatest figures of English literature there was a sense in which they could regard him as one of the wholesomest figures in the history of British intellect and English speech, and that lay in his total simplicity, reality, and want of affectation; in a word, the heart which underlay his brilliancy and his wit.

LABRADOR BOUNDARIES

Territory of 120,000 Square Miles in Dispute

A matter affecting the future control and development of a territory as large as the United Kingdom is coming before the Privy Council very shortly in the form of a "reference" from the Governments of Newfoundland and Quebec.

The history of the affair is interesting. In the Eighteenth Century, when Newfoundland was already an important Colony and Quebec was only a small French settlement, Labrador formed part of the then French Canadian territory. With the conquest of Canada, Labrador passed into the possession of the British, and in 1759 the Imperial Government annexed Labrador to Newfoundland, from which Colony it is divided by the Straits of Belle Isle.

In 1773 it was temporarily re-annexed to Quebec, passed again into Newfoundland's possession in 1809, and finally, in 1876, the coastal portion of Labrador, from the Straits of Belle Isle away to Hudson Strait (a stretch of 600 miles, with an estimated area of 120,000 square miles), was erected into a Dependency of Newfoundland under Letters Patent, and the remainder of the peninsula was annexed to Quebec. The coast line was thus secured to Newfoundland and the hinterland to Quebec, but the boundary between the two has never been clearly defined.

LABRADOR'S VAST RESOURCES.

During the last century this undefined boundary was a matter of comparatively little interest to either Newfoundland or Quebec, but in recent years Labrador has acquired a new importance owing to the proved existence of minerals and the increased value of the territory's immense resources in timber and water power. The Governments of Newfoundland and Quebec have, therefore, agreed to ask the Privy Council to pronounce an interpretation of the "Statutes, Proclamations, and Orders in Council" of the Imperial Government relating to this matter, and when this interpretation has been received it will be for the two Governments concerned to proceed with the work of delimiting the boundary between their respective territories.

Messrs. Burn and Berridge are the solicitors acting for Newfoundland, and Messrs. Charles Russell and Co. for Quebec, and a strong bar has been engaged on each side.

MEXICO, Nov. 1.—A general strike and serious disorders are reported throughout the state of Yucatan.—Reuter.

THE SINN FEIN FIELD-MARSHAL

Ireland's "Real Chief"

All who know anything of the Sinn Fein movement have heard of Michael Collins, leader of the "Irish Republican Army." Sinn Feiners say that for more than two years the British Government has searched for him, and that every policeman and officer in Ireland carries his photograph and description with him, and has orders to arrest him on charges of directing assassination and much else.

Michael Collins has "honoured" Mr. Carl W. Ackerman, special correspondent of the "Philadelphia Public Ledger" and other papers, with an interview, said to be the first he has ever given.

MYSTERIOUS DOCUMENTS.

The interview took place in Dublin, and in describing it the correspondent says:—

My interview with "Mick," as he is familiarly known, began with a discussion over a number of letters and documents seized by the Sinn Fein authorities which I shall publish later. I was escorted to his private address in Dublin by an Irishman I had known for some time. The door was opened by a maid. We asked simply, "Is he here?" We were shown to a back-room on the third floor of a richly-furnished old Georgian house, and did not have to wait long. After a formal introduction, we sat down around a large square table.

"Did you bring those documents?" Mr. Collins was asked.

"I did," he replied, and drew from a special pocket sewn in his coat a small envelope, from which he scattered on the table before him several letters and papers.

The correspondent says he knew the British military authorities and police considered Collins the Field-Marshal of the Irish Army, and that they feared him as he was able to guide, direct, and inspire the Republican force and at the same time evade arrest.

NO COMPROMISE.

Collins, confessing to all this in the interview, declared:

There will be no compromise and no negotiations with any British Government until Ireland is recognized as an Independent Republic.

Mr. Ackerman's comment on that is:—

Considering the fact that Collins is the Irish Republican Minister of Finance, that he is regarded by responsible officials of the British Government as being the secret leader of the Sinn Fein movement, and that his orders are said to be regarded as ultimatums in Ireland, the above statement seems to dispose of all hope of an Irish settlement on the basis of Dominion Home Rule, Dual Home Rule, or Independence within the British Empire, as far as the present leaders of Sinn Fein are concerned.

Collins went on to say that Mr. Lloyd George's words were not

peace offers but threats. He continued:—

"But what are his threats to a nation that has struggled for 750 years and borne tens of millions of casualties? If Lloyd George so decides, there may be another million casualties, but at the end Ireland will be free, and it may happen that in his effort to destroy Ireland he will find he has only destroyed the British Empire."

Sinn Fein, Collins declared, would not negotiate except as a Republican Government.

THE BUSY TURK

Stamboul Illusions

The Turk always accuses himself of being a slow-going person and of preferring, if he cannot do nothing at all, to do very little in a very leisurely manner. This is, I think, a legend which he must have invented to excuse himself for all the muddles he gets into, and the truth rather is that he is a dreadfully busy person who cannot smooth out all the tangles of his crowded occupation, says a "Morning Post" correspondent.

The only sign of leisure you can find in Constantinople is in the European quarter where the rich and the Russian refugees spend part of the day and most of the night sitting idly around a coffee in a garden. As soon as you cross to the Turkish quarter, the immediate impression is one of pushing garrulous activity. The wildest inimitable cries alone prevent you from being bumped into by some merchant, apparently carrying his whole store on his back. You are bewildered by the crossing through and sometimes wish to heaven you were in the quiet restful atmosphere of Fifth Avenue, New York. It is not illusion. The Turk really is a busy fellow. But as he has no idea of co-operation, the effect is like a cinematograph at double its proper speed. Still, there is one advantage in this medievalism, and that is that you can see the workers at their work and can wonder at all sorts of strange processes.

The workshops of Stamboul are really artisans' shops, open on to the street, and they go very largely by quarters—artisans of one trade all congregating together. Thus there is one walk I often take in which, passing under a vine-trellis in a shady street, I come across the ropemakers and the chandlers—dull people these—then pass the enormous din of the hammering ironmongers who will make anything out of a petrol tin—nasty, noisy fellows these—and come at last to my favourite friends, the wood-turners.

A CURIOUS ART.

These excellent men work with their toes. I have never quite been able to make out what it is that their wonderful dexterity achieves in the end, but it seems to be largely bed posts. Anyhow, the work is delightful to watch.

Squatting on their little stools, they take a rounded piece of wood, fix it firmly under their left big toe (though I have noticed that a few of them are ambidextrous in this trade), then take an archer's bow, and draw the string fast over the wood. It twirls and twirls, and with deft chisel they cut and shape it, till in ever so few moments the work is done. There are dozens and dozens of them, all in one street, who all day, except for their rest day on Friday, thus work incessantly.

SILENT WORKERS.

When I visit the wood-turners it is my fashion to go a little higher up still among the craft, to find the brown-skinned boy, whose whole business in life it is to make wooden flutes. I like to see those half dozen at his hand, all cut with their little holes, to note him take them up, stopper them, and, when he has finished, blow a little lively tune upon them. The silent chandlers and makers of cheeses, the strident hammerers of iron, and even the wood-turners, with their curious archery, are then forgotten. Stamboul, with all its crush and inept noise, is forgotten. It seems that in the evening light Daphnis is piping home his goats.

Such is a slice of life and work in Stamboul, and if ever you want to look for the Turk at leisure, you must peer behind the grille of that courtyard where—silent for the first time and for the only time—he slowly washes his feet and his hands and his face before he enters those halls of utter silence or strange moaning cries which are his Mosques.

THE SADNESS OF MODERN DANCERS

A correspondent who recently dropped into the Taj Mahal Hotel when a dance was in progress, writes to the "Times of India" on the extraordinary sadness of modern dancing. "Here," he says, "were 20 or more couples of grown-up people, who were doubtless under the delusion that they were enjoying themselves, gyrating slowly, solemnly, with queer jerks and inexpressibly sad countenances. Did one not know otherwise, one would have said that one had tumbled into one of the many circles of torment in Hades, and that one was witnessing damned souls condemned to expiate by an eternity of sorrowful and painful movements orgies of dancing to which they had sinfully sold themselves on earth. One had to blink one's eyes, and pinch oneself, to realize that it was not so, but that one was viewing one's fellow creatures indulging in the innocent relaxation of the Fox Trot." The correspondent reminds us of Marshal Petain who went to a London hotel to watch the dancing during his visit to England. He was asked his opinion. "*C'est epatant,*" he replied. "*Les figures sont si tristes, et les derrieres si guies.*"

NOVA CYGNI, 1920

What it has been Dong

Not very much seems to have been published about "Nova Cygni, 1920," since the first announcement of its appearance was made, which doubtless interested all thinking people who consider such matters, in addition to the professional and amateur astronomers, most of whom, in the Northern hemisphere, are busily engaged in observing the stranger and analyzing its light with the prism. A small table showing its brightness on various days up to time of writing may be of use and interest—for anyone can easily make a graph, or light-curve, by plotting the observed brightness on squared or decimal paper, a convenient scale being 1 inch vertical=1 magnitude, divided into ten parts; 1 inch horizontal=5 days, commencing on August 20. The points so plotted are joined, and there is your light curve—with probably a few minor irregularities in it, due to errors of observation.

BRIGHTNESS.			
August 20	3.5	September 1	4.4
" 21	3.5	" 3	4.5
" 22	2.8	" 4	4.6
" 23	2.1	" 5	4.7
" 25	2.3	" 6	5.0
" 26	2.7	" 9	4.8
" 28	3.4	" 10	4.9
" 29	3.7	" 11	5.2
" 31	4.3		

It will be seen that the star rose rapidly from magnitude 3½, on August 20, and reached a maximum about the 2nd magnitude on or about August 23. Thenceforward it commenced to fade, has gone on doing so, and at the last observation was a trifle below the 5th magnitude.

There is a family likeness between the light curves of those Novae which have been carefully observed. They rise rapidly to a maximum, decline a little more slowly, and soon reach a stage where there are marked fluctuations of the light, notwithstanding the general tendency to greater faintness. The star under consideration is probably nearing this stage of fluctuation at present.

Circulars from the Harvard College Observatory, U.S.A. (where photographs of the whole sky are systematically and periodically taken), announce that on these records the Nova was not recorded, and therefore below magnitude 9.5, on August 9. On a plate taken on August 19 the Nova appears, of magnitude 4.8. With the help, then, derived from the admirable work at Harvard, we have the whole history of the star before us as regards brightness.

SIGNS OF A VAST EXPLOSION.

Spectroscopic observations are extremely technical, and require elaborate instrumental appliances in order to secure accurate results. Speaking generally, it may be stated that the great majority of the stars give spectra consisting of the rainbow-tinted band crossed by numerous dark bands or line—what is called an absorption spectrum, because the bright rays are absorb-

ed by an atmosphere or medium surrounding the brighter centre of the star or sun. The observations of the writer, made with a small spectroscope applied to the eyepiece of a reflecting telescope of 8½ inches diameter, show that on August 23 the spectrum was practically continuous—no lines either dark or bright could with any certainty be seen. But on August 26 a change had come over the scene. There was a beautiful crimson line in the red end of the spectrum, while in the bluish green there was a group of three bright lines, one of which dominated the whole spectrum, green there was a group of three bright lines, one of which dominated the whole spectrum. On August 28, and subsequently, the same spectrum was seen, but with many other bright and dark lines alternating. In fact, it was a "fluted" spectrum, so called from its analogy to the vertical grooves or flutings in a classical column—quite a beautiful sight and feast of colour.

This all means that some enormous conflagration or development of light, and doubtless heat also, has suddenly occurred. Whether this is due to the collision of a dark star with a nebula (that is, a cloud of diffused gas), with another star, or to some huge pulsations of gas within the star itself, the experts must decide. It may be safely said that the matter is far from decided at present.

EX-GERMAN LINER
BARGAINS

42 Vessels for Sale

"The Daily News" is informed that the ex-German liner Bismarck (56,000 tons), the largest vessel ever built, and now lying in the Elbe, has been included in the list of ex-enemy ships announced for sale or allocation.

Lord Inchcape, acting on behalf of the Reparation Commission, recently returned to London, and was besieged by callers with regard to this announcement, which is the outcome of the Government's decision to invite his co-operation in the disposal of the boats allotted to Great Britain. The exact number of ships on this list is now 42, including the Bismarck and the Wadai (7,500), which were added recently.

THE WONDER SHIP.

The wonder ship of this great fleet is, of course, the Bismarck, which was launched just before the outbreak of war by the Kaiser. She is the third liner of the Imperator class, being three feet longer than the Vaterland. There was a slight hitch at the christening ceremony, and many people in Germany afterwards pointed to it as a bad omen. The bottle of champagne which it is usual to break over the bow of a vessel when it is launched refused to smash, and the Kaiser himself seized it and hurled it against the Bismarck with all his might.

The Bismarck has five full decks and two half-decks in the bow, a

stern or quarterdeck, and four bridge-decks. A person standing on the topmost deck in the middle of the boat will have eight decks beneath him. There are three engine-rooms, four propellers, three wireless telegraphic stations, a submarine signalling apparatus, 83 lifeboats, and several motor-launches.

The vessel's horse-power is 61,000, and her normal speed about 32 knots. She was designed to take 800 first-class, 700 second-class, and 800 steerage passengers.

The following is the complete list of passenger steamers for which Lord Inchcape is prepared to receive offers:—

Name.	Gross Tonnage.
Alexandra	1,117
Alexandra Woermann	3,828
Bahia Castilio	9,959
Berlin	17,324
Bismarck	56,000
Branderburg	7,532
Bremen	11,540
Cap Verde	5,509
Chemnitz	7,542
Eduard Woermann	5,609
Frankfurt	7,431
Graf Waldersee	13,193
Hannover	7,305
Heluan	7,246
Imperator	51,969
Kaiserin Auguste Victoria	24,581
Kigoma	8,155
Koenig Friedrich August	9,462
Koenigin Luise	10,785
La Plata	4,032
Lucia Woermann	4,630
Main	10,058
Meteor	3,613
Mobile	16,960
Patricia	14,466
Pretoria	13,234
Prinzessin	6,387
Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm	17,083
Prinz Hubertus	7,500
Prinz Ludwig	9,687
Rio Negro	4,556
Rio Pardo	4,621
Roon	8,174
Rugia	6,605
Stelgerwald	4,836
Swakopmund	5,631
Valencia	5,232
Wadia	7,371
Wahere	7,371
Windhuk	6,343
Ypirango	8,103
Zeppelin	14,167

PROFESSOR Hozumi, of the Kioto Medical College, was murdered by an unknown person at about six in the evening of November 7, reports the "Hochi." It appears that Professor Hozumi, on the evening of his death, was fishing near the Izumo bridge. He was suddenly attacked, his assailant stabbing the unfortunate professor in the upper region of the brain. The blade of the knife pierced the cranium and reached the brain. Professor Hozumi ran into the yard of a house occupied by a Mr. K. Tojima, and then suddenly collapsed in a swoon. He was immediately taken to the Kioto Hospital and an operation performed, despite which the unfortunate man succumbed. The police are making a strenuous search for the murderer. The only evidence is the knife, a dissecting knife, left behind by the perpetrator of the dastardly outrage.

BRITAIN'S DIAMOND FACTORY

Where the Disabled Man is Happy

Two years and a half ago it was a mud-flat. To-day it is the site of the largest and one of the best-appointed diamond factories in the world, and has already turned out between a million and a half pounds' worth of stones, which easily compete in quality with those from Antwerp and Amsterdam. In the face of every sort of opposition, Mr. Bernard Oppenheimer who, it is to be noted, fought for England in the South African war, perceiving in 1917 the unique suitability of such an industry for disabled men, set to work with a small band of followers, and established, at the cost of £350,000, the present factory at Brighton, which is capable of accommodating 1,750 men.

Naturally, the work has been slow, since, at the start, the number of teachers was very limited, but the fact that there are to-day 500 workmen more or less skilled, earning from £2 to £7 a week, speaks for itself, and the standard of workmanship is so high that the management reckons the wastage to be practically negligible, while stones of ten and even fifteen carat are turned out every week. It is instructive to note in this connexion that while the diamond workers of Antwerp and Amsterdam have to undergo a training of from three to seven years, the average disabled soldier at Brighton has become a qualified diamond cutter or polisher in little more than six months.

After six months' training, during which the men are on State maintenance allowance, they pass to a minimum factory wage of £2.

The average earnings after two years' training are said to be £2 a week, which is exclusive of any disability pension to which, the man is entitled. The wages are based upon output—and perhaps that is that the real secret of Mr. Oppenheimer's success—complete individual records being kept.

There are, besides, three grades of workmen. Grade I. men receive a weekly additional payment of 10s. and Grade II. men of 5s. Any man in Grade I. or Grade II. who chips, over-polishes, or loses a stone, is at once put into Grade III.

Not only is the industry an entirely new one in England, which has had hitherto to depend on Continental monopolies, but it is one particularly advantageous for men who have lost a leg or been otherwise badly crippled in the war. It was fine to witness, during a visit yesterday, how, when the bell announced their dinner, these cripples would pounce upon their crutches and scuffle off to the canteen with radiant faces. The buildings have been constructed with the special view of helping such cases in every possible

way. There is a remarkably well-equipped clinic with high-frequency and radia apparatus, a doctor continually in attendance, and a staff of nurses.

Mr. Oppenheimer has also established smaller works at Cambridge, Wrexham, and Fort William, at the last two of which hostels for the men have been built.

SENATOR HARDING'S POLICY

Trade Tussle with England

Senator Harding has spent three of his summer holidays in England, and, like the majority of Americans who cross the Atlantic, he likes the peace and softness of the English countryside, so different from that of his own country; the quaint little inns with their air of the past and enveloping traditions; London with its marvels and many objects of interest, and some of the things to eat and drink which London alone can offer to the traveller. But he is no more an Anglomaniac than he is an Anglophobe. Americans do not dislike the English, he says; the two peoples have so much in common that it would be unnatural if they did not want real friendship to exist between them, and to work together in harmony and with mutual understanding. Yet with all this genuine admiration and goodwill, Mr. Harding's attitude, if he expressed himself freely, would be, I think, that of the average American, writes a special correspondent to the "Morning Post."

The average American looks upon English diplomacy and politics, English trade and finance, as "smart" but selfish, and so self-centred that it gives little thought as to who may be injured so long as England gains. An opponent's cleverness may arouse admiration, but may also provoke resentment, which is the feeling most Americans have. England is too confoundedly "smart" not to be regarded with suspicion. Hence when England proposes a League of Nations, or is supposed to have proposed it, there must be, according to popular opinion in America, too much in it for England and too little for anybody else. Mr. Harding's view is more moderate. He is not envious of England, but is, I think it would be fair to say, watchful. England, having taught the rest of the world to look after its own interests. America, if she has any sense, will take England as her tutor and try to prove herself an apt pupil.

If England has built up her shipping, for example, at the expense of other nations, America will follow the same course, even if England's shipping suffers in consequence. That, from Mr. Harding's point of view, is not anti-English or inspired by any feeling of dislike towards England. It is simply the circumstance that has made England and America commercial rivals and forces them to engage in a

struggle for the mastery. I have said that Mr. Harding and the average American understand each other very well. What the average American feels and thinks, Mr. Harding expresses for him. The average American, as well as men who are higher than the average, party leaders, and those outside of politics but who shape and direct policies, are thinking in terms of foreign trade as never before.

American goods carried in American ships; the American flag on every ocean; far-off markets, hitherto closed, to yield to the genius of American enterprise, appeal to the spirit of romance and promise new sources of wealth. In view of Mr. Harding's election and a working Republican majority in Congress, he has only to suggest plans for this conquest of foreign markets for Congress quickly to sanction them. He will have the advantage of the support of a party who thinks as he does. On the Tariff and other economic questions, the Republican party is united as in many other respects.

Unlike the Democratic party, which by tradition is opposed to Protection and subsidies, it holds a large and influential element that favours Protection and advocates ship subsidies as a means to keep the American flag flying.

Yet, having said this, I feel that if Mr. Harding comes to White House on March 4, while the Foreign Office and the British Embassy may have some trying moments, and British diplomacy will be subjected to a more severe test than for many years in its relations with this country, there need be no cause for anxiety.

The Salvation Army is 25 years old in Japan and beginning November 12 and continuing until November 19 the army workers will gather in Tokio from all portions of Japan to celebrate the event. The programme opened on the evening of November 12 when the visiting officers were entertained at the Central Hall, Kanda. On that evening the total of the Harvest festival was announced.

ACCORDING to the "*Hochi*," opposition is being raised to some sections of the bill for the jury system now in the hands of the draft committee. The opposition comes from members of the draft committee and the judicial authorities, who insist that the jury system is a violation of the Japanese constitution and describe the system as a mutilated form of judicial power. The more practical sections of the opponents, however, oppose the bill on the grounds that the jurymen are liable to be influenced by sentimental circumstances, lacking the qualifications necessary to handle complicated criminal cases. In view of the increasing opposition to the proposed jury system, the "*Hochi*" says that the course of the bill will not be smooth in the next session of the Diet.

NEAR EASTERN TRADE

American View of British Competition

In a very interesting pamphlet dealing with trade with the Near East, the Guaranty Trust Co. of New York, which has just established a branch in Constantinople, draws attention to an interesting feature of military occupation of these countries. It says:

The presence of a British Army in the Near East has not only had its effect in the districts immediately occupied but its influence has spread over territory which the army itself has not entered. We are informed that there is a vogue at present for safety razors, few of which were sold before the war, and that considerable trade could be done in pocket-knives of the types carried by the troops.

To sum up, there is a big demand for all articles of the kind Germany and Austria-Hungary formerly supplied. Sheffield has its eye on this market, however, and American firms must expect keen competition in view of the strengthened British influence in the Levant.

KEEN BRITISH COMPETITION.

After drawing attention to directions in which American merchants might succeed, the pamphlet says:

British competition is very keen in Greece, as it is in every Near Eastern market, as British traders are much more liberal than Americans in their terms, extending credit where necessary, while many American exporters still insist upon "cash against documents." Provided that American traders will meet the competition of other traders, Greece may be regarded as decidedly friendly to American trade. The Greeks know that our sole object in the Eastern Mediterranean is to see normal conditions restored.

It cannot be too strongly emphasized that, if America is to obtain her share of trade in the Near East, she must establish herself now, otherwise the other industrial nations will be so firmly entrenched that the American trader will find serious difficulties in his path.

Our chief competitor will undoubtedly be Great Britain. A large number of British traders are already on the ground in every country of the Near East. There are British warships in every harbour and British military forces in many cities, messengers of peace and security for these oppressed communities which are building up a strong pro-British sentiment which assuredly will have an important influence in favour of British trade.

The Near Eastern markets have a future which is full of promise. They have enormous resources, both developed and undeveloped, in fields and forests, oil deposits and mines.

THE POOR MAN'S CAR

Has the poor man's motor-car arrived? A London "Daily News" representative, who was given a trial run in the remarkable £100 two-seater was left with the impression that it has.

The fact that 5,000 orders have already been received by the makers—the Carden Engineering Co.—suggests that he is not alone in this impression.

In the motor world the price remains a mystery. Competitors are unable to understand how a car capable of taking two people up any hill, and at 50 miles an hour along the level, can be sold at only double the price of a scooter.

NO INCREASE IN PRICE.

It is not intended, however, to make any increase in price. "Unless anything quite unforeseen occurs," said a director of the firm "the price will remain £100. By Christmas we shall be delivering 50 a week. We have received inquiries from all over the world."

On the trial run a start was made from Launceston-place, W. "I confess," writes our representative, "that I took my seat with some trepidation. It hardly seemed likely that a car of so low a price and so unconventional a design could be easy to work in traffic and reasonably comfortable on London roads."

"I was agreeably surprised. The engine was started with little difficulty from the driver's seat by pulling up a lever, and the car moved off quite smoothly. In the London traffic it behaved as well as the average car, and owing to its small size was unusually handy."

"The springing was surprisingly good, though no doubt one's freedom from shock was partly due to the tyres not being unduly inflated."

"A speed test was not possible, but along one comparatively clear stretch of road the driver indulged in 35 miles an hour, and at that speed the little car travelled smoothly and without any vibration."

"During a drive round the Park a further demonstration was given of the ease of control, docility, and sweet running of the car. It was easy to believe that the 8 h.p. two-stroke engine will give ample power on the low gear of 12.1 for any hill."

The weight of the passengers and the power unit is all on the back axle, but our representative was assured that careful tests have shown that no anxiety need be felt on this account.

The petrol consumption is about 45 miles to a gallon. The company will shortly produce a racing model which is expected to do 80 miles an hour on the track.

It is reported that the recent Sino-Portuguese dispute regarding the reclamation at Macao has been settled and that the work will soon recommence. A scheme is also afoot for extensive reclamation in the Outer Harbour, involving an expenditure of several millions.

TANKS v. YEOMEN

The Passing of the War Horse

Tank corps and aircraft squadrons will ultimately form part of the Territorial Army, since that army is to be a replica of the Regular Army, now that it has become the second line and is being raised on the basis of Imperial defence. Mountain batteries of artillery and machine gun corps are also contemplated in the new scheme of defence.

The tank has not entirely eliminated the horse from our post-war Army, but the changes now taking place in both the Regular and Territorial Armies connote a considerable reduction in the Cavalry branch of the Mounted Service. This reduction is particularly marked in the Territorial Army. In the late war the development of motor transport saved the employment of thousands of horses on the lines of communication, and the tank reduced considerably the number of horses in the battle zone. It is not possible now to say on what scale horses will be used in the next war, but the evolutive progress made with the tank, and the duties it is proposed to assign to this machine, clearly suggests that the horse is rapidly passing from the arena of war.

There were before the war approximately 50 regiments of Yeomanry Cavalry. One of the lessons of the war, it is held, proved that many of these regiments, largely in consequence of the operations successfully performed by the tank, are redundant. Something approaching 25 of these regiments will shortly disappear from the Army List. The men who made up the personnel of these units are to dismount their horses and "mount" the guns—to be metamorphosed into Field and Mountain Batteries of Artillery and Machine Gun Corps, because a largely increased proportion of that arm of the Service is required. Yeomen who belong to the disappearing regiments do not welcome the change. They prefer horses to guns. They are, however, disinclined completely to sever their connexion with the Force, and recruiting for the new units is not in the circumstances considered to be altogether unsatisfactory.

Tank Corps are for the moment held in abeyance. The rapid development which is now going on with this new "arm" is so pregnant with possibilities that it is premature now to settle the exact part it will play in war. The tank of to-day is not the tank of yesterday. Machines too are being devised for the destruction of the tank, so that the work of the experts and designers is not yet ended.

It is reported that the Netherlands Government intends to propose for the consideration of the League of Nations that adequate regulations governing the prohibition of opium should be drafted to be enforced in the Far East.

A PREHISTORIC RELIC

Mr. Clement Edwards Discovery

The curiously-carved flint unearthed by Mr. Clement Edwards from a gravel pit on Mr. C. A. Vandervell's estate near Pangbourne may already supplement considerably that fascinating Chapter X. of Mr. Well's new History. Certainly the manner of its discovery, as related by Mr. Edwards to an "Observer" representative, who was shown the relic at his residence in Pimlico, is as interesting as the chapter itself.

"I don't know much about geology," he explained. "Natural history is my hobby, and if you were to ask me something about birds, now— However, it was the work of the new tractor ploughs on Mr. Vandervell's estate which really led up to the discovery. These have been stirring up three or four inches of subsoil which has not been touched for ages, and besides bringing up a fine crop of charlock they also unearthed a number of flint arrow heads.

"It was these that first excited my curiosity. While Mr. Vandervell and his agent were talking business over a gravel put in the bankside of a stream there, I poked about among the virgin surface of the gravel, unearthed the relic you see there, and had it thoroughly cleaned. The spot it came from was, I should think, about 12 ft. below the surface soil and 40 to 50 ft. above the level of the stream. The expert at the British Museum to whom I showed it tells me it may easily prove to be about 40,000 years old, and the best flint of its kind yet discovered. At his suggestion I am submitting it to the Prehistoric Society when it meets in the spring."

The flint itself is dumbbell-shaped and somewhat bigger than an extra large potato. Every nodule on it—and there appeared to be at least a dozen of these—had been crudely worked to represent an animal's or reptile's head, and distinct incisions made for mouth and eyes. To an unexpert eye, at least, the deliberate carvings were unmistakable, the eyes particularly showing up sharply and clearly cut in each head. Mr. Edwards framed with a handkerchief each head in turn; in fact, there seemed to be no limit to the number of nightmare faces this hydra-headed monster could display. One might be said to suggest a crocodile, another a horse, another a reindeer, and so on through all that grotesque creation which survives in Mr. Horrabin's Stone-Age diagrams and haunts our dreams at nights. We could sympathize with the new obsession which had induced Mr. Edwards to confess that archaeology was infinitely more interesting than politics.

The British Museum expert who had examined the relic explained that it was undoubtedly, in his judgement, an Animistic flint, and

the height of the gravel above the stream level would tend to confirm that it was of Palæolithic origin. Flints of the kind have been excavated by Mr. W. M. Newton, of Dartmouth, who has published a brochure illustrating his collection, but these were less distinct. The new flint should serve to substantiate Mr. Newton's theories, and go far to prove that sculpture had its origins in Early Palæolithic times. Prehistoric man began by simply trimming up flints whose natural shapes suggested the contours of animals, and later went on to high-relief and engraved outline. The relic belongs to the first period. "And the interesting part of it is," he added, "that these discoveries are invariably made by amateurs."

A HUMORIST BISHOP

Dr. Furse, who took charge of the diocese of St. Albans six months ago (after 17 years as Bishop of Pretoria), is acquiring fame as a humorist.

He has lately visited Ware, Welwyn and Hitchin, where his audiences have roared with laughter at his sallies.

Of his own appointment to St. Albans by Mr. Lloyd George, the Bishop said:

"I couldn't help it. I was simply thrown at you by a Baptist Prime Minister, and, as far as I am concerned, I've got to sit on your chests for the rest of my natural. And it may be unpleasant for all concerned."

ADDRESSES IN "KEY Q."

His description of the "Service for Young People," as he finds it may possibly be regarded as highly irreverent by some people.

"Can you expect," he asked the Lay Helpers' Association at Hitchin, "to arouse any interest in a young chap who comes to church, and right at the beginning of the service finds the clergyman, in a very parsonic voice—in about key

Q—addressing him as a dearly beloved brother, and then telling him to confess his sins? (Laughter.)

"That is too much for any young person to stick. Then the lessons follow, and the young person may get a great chunk of the Book of Kings flung at him."

BRAVE CHOIR BOYS.

"Then the organist starts pumping away as hard as ever he can. Imagine the congregation wading through the Psalms on the 15th evening! (Laughter.)

"For the first 20 or 30 verses they sing away well, and then gradually get tired."

"But the choirboys stick manfully to it, the organist pumps some more, and so it goes on, till they come to the 'Gloria,' when everybody rallies and puts a little more life into it—probably very much relieved to get it done with."

"I have very strong views on services for young people," said the Bishop grimly, "and you'll hear of them before long."

STAMP ABUSIVE LETTERS.

Other mots by the Bishop on his tour were:—

"If you write me abusive letters, for heaven's sake put stamps on them. Nowadays one has to pay 4d.—and it isn't worth it."

"A Bishop can't be got rid of unless he gets drunk, or becomes bankrupt. I hope you will not get rid of me for the first cause, but you may for the second, unless you pay me better."

"There is only one thing worse than being 'respectable,' that is being 'superior.' Figure-heads may have been all right for old ships. They are not a bit of good in a church."

FRANCES Lee, said to be the only Chinese airwoman, is reported to have been killed in Redwood City, California. She was flying with an American aviator when the machine crashed to earth. The American aviator was also killed.

D. J. Collis Browne's

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ever discovered.

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of SPASMS. Checks and arrests
those too often fatal diseases—

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NEURALGIA, GOUT,
RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.

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MAIL NOTICES

Next Mail In

Per M.M.S. Chili	Nov. 20
Per P. & O. S. Devanha	" 21
Per C.M.S. China	" 24
Per M.M.S. Amazone	Dec. 3
Per R.M.S. Empress of Russia	" 3
Per P. & O. S. Sicilia	" 7
Per P.M.S. Colombia	" 10
Per M.M.S. André Lebon	" 15
Per L.T.S. Nippon	" 15
Per R.M.S. Montague	" 19
Per P. & O. S. Plassy	" 25
Per R.M.S. Empress of Japan	" 26
Per M.M.S. Paul Lecat	" 29

Next Mail Out

FOR MARSEILLES, LONDON, ETC.—	
Per P. & O. S. Nellore	Nov. 21
Per M.M.S. Cordillere	" 24
Per N.Y.K.S. Inaba Maru	" 25
Per O.S.K.S. Havana Maru	" 29
FOR JAPAN, CANADA, U.S.A. & EUROPE:	
Per N.Y.K.S. Suwa Maru	Nov. 22
Per T.K.K.S. Shinyo Maru	" 26
Per N.Y.K.S. Toyoma Maru	" 27

PASSENGERS

INWARD

Per str. Shinyo Maru, November 11. From San Francisco, etc. Mr. O. Aanansen, Mr. T. Bume, Mr. H. F. Baruh, Rev. F. X. Cloughert, Mr. and Mrs. O. Crewe-Read, Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Cochran, Mr. H. Dionyais, Miss M. Duke, Mr. Max Friedman, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Horder and 2 children, Mr. R. J. Holding, Mrs. E. C. Hawks, Miss Irene Hawkyn, Miss Cora F. Hobson, Mrs. E. Hauser, Mr. F. A. Henningsen, Mr. V. W. Hentingsen, Mr. J. Irwin, Miss M. Jacobs, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Jones, Master B. Jones, Miss H. Jones, Mr. A. A. Krycoff, Rev. Jos. Kerrin, Mrs. N. Kondo and infant, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. McKean and child, Rev. H. P. Lawtor, Mr. J. R. Lyness, Mr. and Mrs. H. Martin, Rev. R. J. and Mrs. McMullen, Miss Carrie McMullen, Master J. S. McMullen, Miss Emme McMullen, Miss Mona McIntyre Mr. and Mrs. D. C. McKnight, Mrs. F. D. Mortimer, Miss S. Moosa, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Marshall, Mrs. M. Murakami, Mr. J. Nakazawa, Mr. S. Oka, Mr. O. D. Pedersen, Mrs. M. N. Price, Sister Mario Patricia, Sister Clare Patricia, Sister Winifred Patricia, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Penn, Sister Marie Gratio, Sister Mary Eliso, Sister Eugenia Mario, Rev. Abbe Scollier, Mrs. T. Stevens, Mr. S. Saji, Mr. O. Tanimoto, Mr. M. Tatsuno, Bishop J. N. Tacconi, Mr. Y. Tokuda, Mrs. C. Tokuda and infant, Miss I. Tokuda, Miss Y. Tokuda, Rev. Abbe Verdier, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Weinberger, Mr. W. Williams, Mr. H. Wiberg.

Per str. Kingsing, November 12. From Weihaiwei. Mr. and Mrs. Hansell.

Per str. Hsin Peking, November 12. From Ningpo. Miss E. Kohler.

Per str. Shuntien, November 12. From Tientsin. Mr. Campbell. From Chefoo. Mr. Waterman.

Per R.M.S. Empress of Japan, November 12. From Hongkong. Mr. A. E. Arculli, Mr. T. B. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Cobb, Mrs. F. Ceres, Mr. Saab Faiz, Mrs. F. Kadomzeff, Mrs. R. and Mrs. S. Lissousky, Mr. V. Larsen, Mr. G. W. Northridge, Mr. B. O. Russel, Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Singer, Miss N. Vandelden, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Rodwell, Mr. A. Golobuchock, Mr. P. Rvazanoff, Mr. C. W. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Christian, Mr. H. E. Fielding, Mr. L. C. Hulbert, Mr. T. S.

Killior, Mr. and Mrs. W. Morris, Miss E. M. Robinson, Mr. W. H. Smith, Mr. J. W. Haussermann, Mr. S. R. Carroll, Mr. N. Brill, Mr. P. Petroff.

Per str. Kwangping, November 12. From Chiawangtao. Mrs. Brewer and 3 children, Mr. Leon Brunal.

Per str. Kutwo, November 13. From Hankow. Messrs. A. T. J. Pike and Takahashi.

Per str. Hsinkong, November 13. From Pukow. Mrs. Moodie and child.

Per str. Hsin Peking, November 14. From Ningpo. Messrs. C. Long, T. Kisses, and R. Patch, Dr. and Mrs. Colman, Mrs. Petersen and child.

Per str. Hsin Ningshao, November 14. From Ningpo. Mr. W. Uhlick.

Per str. Hsinfung, November 14. From Tientsin. Mrs. R. Randbye.

Per str. Ngankin, November 14. From Hankow. Miss E. Phelps.

Per str. Fengtien, November 14. From Tientsin. Mrs. Malcolm, Eng.-Lieut. Humphries, Messrs. Periol, Tillson, and Pearce.

Per str. Tuckwo, November 14. From Hankow. Mr. M. H. Young, Mrs. W. B. O. Middleton, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Burrett.

Per str. Kasuga Maru, November 14. From Japan. Mr. W. F. Nonis, Mrs. Nonis, Mr. Chikanzoff, Mr. and Mrs. E. Busch, Mr. J. Ramsay, Mr. J. Lewis, Mrs. Napanum and Miss C. J. Shanks.

Per str. Yamashiro Maru, November 14. From Japan. Messrs. J. H. Green, J. H. Moore, J. S. Harvie, C. S. Black, Mrs. J. B. Elliott, Miss I. C. Pennington, Mrs. A. Paskevitch, Mrs. V. Pavloff and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Keith, Miss D. S. Keith and Mr. R. F. Habson.

Per str. Sinkiang, November 15. From Hongkong. Mrs. Hogate, Mr. and Mrs. Thuis and infant, Lieut. E. J. Jayton Bennet.

Per str. Tehhsing, November 15. From Hankow. Messrs. Raymond and Robbins.

Per str. Woosung, November 15. From Hankow. Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Cox, Mrs. H. Galla, Mrs. F. J. Birney, Capt. R. A. Bell Syer, Messrs E. P. Williams, D. Beddow, J. Bettison and F. Ehrhardt, Rev. Paul Hutchinson, Messrs. G. Hangen, E. Frenchkahu, C. L. Neiu and T. Sze.

Per str. Persia, November 15. From Trieste, etc. Misses S. Espeland, T. Stensland, Messrs. E. and A. Karlsson, Misses Anna Sjogren, and Anna Anderson, Messrs. S. Ambro, F. Gregor, A. Waltemade, H. Soi, Loui-Gis, Luigi Cattapan and 3 children, Mrs. Grinshapen, Messrs. Antonio Pitacco, Willy Gasten, Popoff, Neri Vannucci and Emanuel Moart.

Per str. Hsinchi, November 16. From Foochow. Mr. Exter.

Per str. Kiangteen, November 16. From Ningpo. Mrs. Clarke, Miss Clarke, Mr. Redfern, Mr. and Mrs. J. Jones and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. J. Johans.

Per str. Kianghsin, November 16. From Hankow. Mr. J. A. Dick. From Ngankin. Miss E. Smith. From Wuhu. Miss Buker and Father S. Drets.

Per str. Haean, November 17. From Wenchow. Mr. Rensch.

Per str. Hsin Ningshao, November 17. From Ningpo. Messrs. J. S. Grant and H. G. Mackenzie.

Per str. Shengking, November 17. From Hankow. Mrs. Gibson, Messrs. G. Robb and F. P. Arrett.

Per str. Hsin Peking, November 17. From Ningpo. Mr. and Mrs. Bishop and child, Miss Wadmar, Mrs. Hybert, Mr. Saunders and Miss E. Francisied.

Per str. Koonshing, November 17. From Tientsin. Messrs. H. N. Weinberg

and F. Trueman, Mrs. C. E. Morey, Mr. and Mrs. McClure Anderson, Master and Miss Anderson. From Chefoo. Mr. J. A. Dobbie, Mr. A. Rouse, Mr. and Mrs. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Bedy. From Weihaiwei. Master and Miss Case.

Per str. Yawata Maru, November 17. From Kobe. Mrs. L. Hearne, Mr. E. L. Kelly, Mr. H. Hearne, Mr. J. F. Stevens, Mr. J. Karalwski, Mr. T. Gamble, Mr. E. Alexander and Mr. K. K. Vuss.

Per str. Kiangteen, November 18. From Ningpo. Mrs. G. Lelas.

Per str. Changon, November 18. From Hankow. Mr. H. O. Stowstone, Mr. and Miss McLachlan.

Per str. Suwa Maru, November 18. From Japan. Mrs. Main, Mr. Steporoff, Mrs. A. F. Grigoriovna and Mr. N. A. Sprenger.

Per str. Chenan, November 18. From Hongkong. Mrs. H. G. Reade and infant, Mr. L. M. Thomas, Mr. G. Eliasson and Mr. W. R. Flatow.

Per str. Loongwo, November 18. From Hankow. Mr. Kempf and 2 sailors, Mr. S. Tweedie, Mr. F. C. D. Atkins, Mr. G. T. Chalmers. From Kiukiang. Dr. and Mrs. A. J. Nast, Dr. Mary and Phebe Stone and Miss Hughes. From Tungchow. Mr. A. A. Keegan.

OUTWARD

Per str. Suiwo, November 12.—For Hankow.—Mr. and Mrs. Blomberg, Messrs. W. J. Lock and D. McBean Ross.

Per str. Empress of Japan, November 12.—For Vancouver, etc.—Mr. C. O. Arndt, Mr. W. F. Arndt, Mrs. A. M. Arrigoni, Mrs. D. L. Byrd, Mr. and P. Bendixon, Miss A. M. Branton, Miss Alberta Cresswell, Mr. H. W. Fildler, Miss N. Ferguson, Mrs. E. C. Fsher, Mr. V. Grodsky, Miss N. F. Grodsky, Mr. and Mrs. O. T. Griffith and son, Miss M. E. Hall, Mr. N. Leon, Miss G. Mack, Miss Mallory, Mrs. Murdock Mackenzie, Miss D. McLaughlin, Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Megready, Miss K. McCoy, Miss E. B. Maxwell, Miss F. O. Ogden, Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Persell, Miss R. G. Pipher, Reverend J. C. Robertson, Mr. W. W. G. Ross, Miss A. A. Sulther, Mr. G. S. Stouch, Mrs. M. Thrift, Mr. Geo. van Zandt, Mr. Dudley Warner, Mr. S. Wallace, Mrs. H. Wilson.

Per str. Kingsing, November 13.—For Chefoo.—Capt. Lewenez, Mr. and Mrs. B. Van Exter.

Per str. Kutwo, November 15.—For Nanking.—Mr. Elliston, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Adams. For Hankow.—The Bandman Opera Company (17 members) and Mr. G. Tschudin.

Per str. Feiching, November 15.—For Foochow.—Messrs. Young and Chun.

Per str. Kwanglee, November 15.—For Hongkong.—Messrs. Wu and A. Q. Adamson, Mr. and Mrs. M. Y. San.

Per str. Tuckwo, November 16.—For Hankow.—Bishop Tacconi, Revs. Lawton and F. X. Clougherty, Sisters of Charity (6), Mrs. H. K. Peters, Messrs. W. Hill, A. S. Kimball, H. B. Niles, Kerrin, Bremner and Saunders.

Per str. Yamashiro Maru, November 17.—For Kobe.—Mrs. V. Borekoff, Mrs. Blenk and daughter, Messrs. Bork Baker, and W. E. Lampe, Mrs. Ku. Mr. and Mrs. J. F. G., Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Miller.

Per str. Kwangping, November 18.—For Tientsin.—Mr. R. C. P. Phillips.

Per str. Loongwo, November 19.—For Tungchow.—Rev. Frank Garrett. For Tatung.—Dr. F. Gamewell. For Hankow.—Mrs. Beddow, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. C. Joass, Mr. and Mrs. J. Gauthier.

BIRTHS

BROTHERTON.—On November 16, 1920, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to the wife of T. D. Brotherton, a son. Ian Dryhurst.

CAMPBELL.—On November 7, 1920, at Peking, to Mr. and Mrs. Archibald S. Campbell, a son.

CHAPMAN.—On November 8, 1920, at the United Methodist College, Wenchow, to Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Chapman, a daughter. (Dorothy Annie).

McCALLUM.—On November 12, 1920, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mrs. George McCallum, a daughter.

MILLS.—On November 17, 1920, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, the wife of Captain G. D. Mills (China Navigation Company, Limited) of a daughter (still born).

MOORE.—On November 11, 1920, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. H. Moore, a daughter.

WILLIAMS.—On November 14, 1920, at No. 21 Route des Sœurs, Shanghai, to Mrs. F. H. Williams, a daughter.

MARRIAGES

BRAND—BURKILL.—On November 15, 1920, at H.B.M.'s Consulate-General, Shanghai, by Sir Everard Fraser, K.C.M.G., H.M.'s Consul-General, and afterwards at The Holy Trinity Cathedral, by the Very Rev. Dean Symons, John Kenneth Brand, son of the late David Brand, and of Mrs. Brand, Shanghai, to Katharine Joyce Burkill, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Burkill, of Shanghai.

FERNANDES—CARNEIRO.—On November 16, 1920, at the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Hongkew, Shanghai, Clementino, third son of the late Mr. C. M. Fernandes, to Mrs. C. Carneiro, widow of the late Mr. F. Carneiro, of Macao. Hongkong and Macao papers please copy.

ROBERTSON — WARREN.—On November 17, 1920, at H.B.M. Consulate-General, Shanghai, by Sir Everard Fraser, K.C.M.G., H.M. Consul-General, Robert Buchanan Robertson, only son of the late James Robertson of Dumferline, Fyfehire, Scotland, to Violet Marie Warren, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Warren of Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

DEATHS

BORTHWICK.—On November 6, 1920, at Ichang, of dysentery, Nancy, beloved elder daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Borthwick.

CASEY.—On November 18, 1920, at Chefoo, Mrs. E. H. Casey, wife of Mr. Ernest Casey of Chefoo. (By cable).

NORONHA.—On November 17, 1920, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, at 5 p.m., Maria Bernadette, beloved daughter

of Rodolfo Gomes da Costa, and wife of Victor Augusto Noronha.

PINTOS.—On November 12, 1920, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, Guilhermina Pintos, aged 19.

SIMONS.—On November 18, 1920, at No. 145 Dixwell Road, Shanghai, Ernest Bertram Simons, late Captain China Steam Navigation Co., beloved husband of Minnie Simons, aged 44 years.

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SICAWAI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer.		Wind.		Hygrometer 9 a.m.		Thermometer in Shade		Weather condition
	9 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Direction 9 a.m.	Force (1-12)	Dry	Wet	Max.	Min.	
Nov. 12	30.47	62.8	NNW	2	51.8	48.4	61.0	42.2	B.
" 13	30.61	60.8	NNW	1	54.2	46.9	63.1	38.5	B.
" 14	30.52	59.7	ESE	1	59.4	51.3	68.6	37.4	B.
" 15	32.40	61.4	E	1	62.1	57.2	70.4	47.7	O.
" 16	30.38	62.2	E	2	64.4	60.3	69.8	57.0	O.
" 17	3.21	62.6	WNW	1	61.3	58.7	63.3	57.9	O. M.
" 18	32.27	62.2	NNW	0	56.3	54.8	63.7	52.7	O. M.

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
 C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.)				Rainfall	
	Minimum		Maximum		Inches	
	1920	1919	1920	1919	1920	1919
Nov. 12	44.5	47.0	62.0	68.4	Nil.	Nil.
" 13	42.8	46.6	64.0	68.0	Nil.	Nil.
" 14	44.8	46.0	67.0	68.8	Nil.	Nil.
" 15	52.8	46.2	66.8	69.2	Nil.	Nil.
" 16	59.8	48.0	68.8	71.0	0.03	Nil.
" 17	59.2	57.0	62.8	67.2	Nil.	Nil.
" 18	55.0	42.0	62.4	58.0	Nil.	Nil.

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L. Stoddard: The Rising Tide of Color Against White World-Supremacy 3.00	J. Hastings: The Children's Great Texts of the Bible 3.25
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